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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you intend to join this Saturday's rally of indigenous residents to oppose Interior's recommendation to grant improved status for long-term alien workers?

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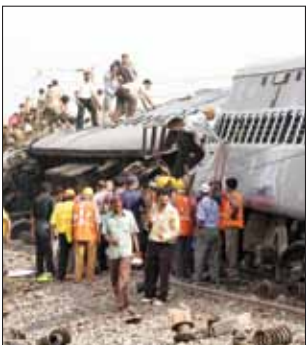
INSIDE



Law Repeal

The House approves a proposal to repeal "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

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Train Bomb

A bomb derails a train in eastern India, killing at least 65 people.

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Critically Ill

Former child TV star Gary Coleman is in critical condition near his Utah home.

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Disconnection notices for govt

» **Muña to Inos: CUC's need to pay vendors \$2.4M quickly**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Effective yesterday, government agencies and public schools with past due utility accounts will start receiving disconnection notices from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., which hopes to collect the money it needs to pay vendors at least \$2.4 million.

See **DISCONNECTION** on **Page 4**

US, Japan decide to keep military base in Okinawa

By TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TOKYO (AP)—Washington and Tokyo agreed Friday to keep a contentious U.S. Marine base in the southern island of Okinawa, reaffirming the importance of their security alliance and the need to maintain American troops in Japan.

In a joint statement, the two allies agreed to move the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Henoko, in a less crowded, northern part of the island. The deci-

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Hatoyama

IN FIRST GUAM-NMI MOCK TRIAL PLAY

NMI student-jurors deliver 'guilty' verdict



Hopwood Junior High School students pose with CNMI acting Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, Judge Ramona V. Manglona, Clerk of Court Galo Perez, and Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas outside the federal court building after yesterday's interactive mock trial play between Guam and the CNMI.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

"We find the respondent guilty!"

This was the unanimous decision rendered by the 13-member CNMI jury during yesterday's interactive mock trial play between Guam and Commonwealth students.

In more than an hour of telecast

interaction between parties, students from Hopwood Junior High School served as the jurists who analyzed and reviewed the facts in the first-ever interactive mock trial play performed by students of Agueda Johnston Middle School via a televised court performance in Guam.

The case involved Spanish Capt.

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117 energy rebate vouchers worth \$28,950 OK'd

» **First 3 recipients receive vouchers from officials**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Firefighter Sylvan O. Laniyo, a resident of Dandan, will be buying as early as today

a new energy-efficient refrigerator, a new washer, and an air-conditioning unit with the help of federal grant money. His blessings, he said, do not end there. His household will also soon see lower power bills.

"I am excited and thankful for these blessings," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

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Lawyer, landowner accused of deceiving investors. **PAGE 2**
Woman gets 18-month sentence for vehicular homicide. **PAGE 3**

Local

Lawyer, landowner accused of deceiving investors

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A Japanese investor has sued attorney Ramon K. Quichocho for allegedly breaching a lease agreement over two pieces of land at Ladder Beach despite being paid \$363,300.

Toshin Group International Inc. and its president, Shinji Fujie, sued Quichocho and Joaquin Q. Atalig for slander of title and breach of lease agreement. Toshin Group, through counsel Steve Nutting, also sued Quichocho for interference with a contract.

When asked for comments yesterday, Quichocho said he

doesn't understand why Toshin is suing him when he does not own any interest in that land.

"Under their theory looks like we can also sue Steve Nutting for conspiring to sue me for nothing," Quichocho said.

Toshin Group asked the Superior Court to order Quichocho and Atalig to pay them damages, attorney's fees, and court costs. The company also sought \$363,300 in damages from Quichocho that they fully paid to lease the land.

The plaintiffs also asked the court to cancel and rescind the termination of the lease on the two lots and to bar Quichocho and Atalig from further attempts

to slander the title of Toshin and Fujie in the property.

According to the complaint, Fujie came to Saipan in late 2005 or early 2006 and became interested in investing in a property.

During the course of his search for investment properties, Fujie was introduced to Atalig, who owned property near Ladder Beach on Saipan. Atalig allegedly told Fujie that he was willing to lease the Ladder Beach property for 55 years.

On June 13 and June 26, 2006, Atalig, Fujie, and Naoshi Osagawara, on behalf of Toshin, executed a lease for a term of 55 years for an advance payment of \$363,300, which was to be con-

sidered as prepaid rent for the entire term.

Fujie and Toshin prepaid the rent for the entire 55-year term of the real property, which contains an area of 4,045 square meters and 2,010 square meters.

Nutting said three years after the lease was executed and on Sept. 30, 2009, Atalig and Quichocho filed with the Commonwealth Recorder a document styled "Termination of Ground Lease" for the two lots.

The termination did not recite the cause or grounds for the termination and Fujie or Toshin were not notified of the termination, Nutting said.

The lawyer said the two

conspired to slander the title and defraud Fujie and Toshin out of their investment in the property and their leasehold interest by terminating the lease without just cause and despite the ground lease having been fully prepaid.

Nutting said Quichocho and Atalig published the termination of ground lease so that they could lease the property to other investors.

Nutting cited another case in which Quichocho and Atalig allegedly sought to defraud other investors with a similar unlawful termination of ground lease, this time on another property at Ladder Beach.

He said the incident resulted

in another lawsuit filed in federal court by an investor, Sin Ho Nam, against the same defendants.

Nutting said the defendants have engaged in a pattern and practice of fraud, trickery and deceit and employed unsavory and malicious practices, in an effort to defraud investors of their investments and to lure other investors to invest in properties they had already sold or leased.

Nutting said this conduct creates a pervasive bias and impression that investing in the CNMI is unsafe and insecure, thereby harming the image of the Commonwealth and its people and deterring others from investing in property in the CNMI.

Syed urges alien workers to join Memorial Day gathering

United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed is urging alien workers and those with immediate relative status to join their Memorial Day gathering on Monday.

"Those who feel that America is our home...should come and show our support to those who sacrificed for our nation's security," Syed said yesterday.

Among the invited guest speakers are Dr. John Griffin of the Northern Marianas College, Park Ranger Nancy Kelchner, and Glenn Hunter.

Syed said if former Rep. Tina Sablan is back on island, she may also be a guest speaker.

He said on that day, they will recognize parents who have children who are in the U.S. Armed Forces and will also of-

fer prayers for fallen soldiers.

"We'll light candles for our great nation," Syed said.

He said workers should be united to make their voices heard on the improved immigration status issue.

With respect to the singing contest, Syed disclosed that at least 13 had already registered and that they are still encouraging others to join.

He said if possible the contestants should sing patriotic songs, but that all type of songs are also allowed.

Syed said winners will get prizes, trophies, and certificates.

The recognition event will be held on Monday at the American Memorial Park's amphitheater, from 4pm to 7pm. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Another Emmanuel College alumnae passes NCLEX test

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Leonora C. Angello, a graduate of Emmanuel College, recently passed the National Council Licensure Examination for practical nurses on her first try, making her the fifth student from the institution to ace the test.

Leonora, a mother of two, is married to Jack Angello and an employee of the Voice of America. She completed her 11-month nursing program in 2008 where she emerged top in her class.

Angello said it took her more than two months of rigorous reviews early this year to make the grade. She received the good news on May 5.

She intends to apply for a nursing job at the Commonwealth Health Center and other private clinics on island.

In an interview, Angello admitted that it has been her dream to become a nurse and is thankful to Emmanuel College for

offering the course in the Commonwealth.

She said she is especially thankful to Liz Untalan and Hervin Jacinto—her former instructors—for helping her throughout program.

Last month, another Emmanuel College alumnae, Cheng Huan, also passed the same examination. Other successful examinees from Emmanuel

College include Sarah Jane Santos, Jian Teng, and Xiao Hua Yuan.

Angello described the 11-month course at Emmanuel College as challenging but fulfilling.

Emmanuel College's Vocational Nursing program is approved and accredited by the CNMI Board of Nursing for a total of 1,564 hours of theory and clinical training for entry-level employment in hospitals and other healthcare settings.

Emmanuel College is expected to open a new season for the next batch of students this summer.



Angello

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Woman gets 18-month sentence for vehicular homicide

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona has imposed an 18-month prison term on a woman who hit and killed a pedestrian in a drunk driving incident in Kagman last year.

Manglona sentenced Sayuri Aldan Paulis to three years in prison, all suspended except for 18 months, for vehicular homicide, with credit for the six days she was in jail.

The judge allowed the

35-year-old Paulis to start serving her sentence on Aug. 1, 2010 at 8am.

After completing her sentence, Paulis will be placed on supervised probation for five years. She was also required to perform 40 hours of community service, and to pay restitution, \$1,000 fine, and \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

Manglona also ordered Paulis to write a letter of apology to the family of the victim, Larry Ayuyu.

Manglona said Paulis shall undergo treatment for alcohol abuse and attend a minimum of two Alcoholics Anonymous meetings every week for six months following her release.

Paulis' driver's license will be suspended for six months after her release, but she will be allowed to drive for work and or school purposes, for necessities, and for emergencies.

Paulis was charged with vehicular homicide, driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, and speeding.

Paulis and her counsel, Stephen Nutting, negotiated a plea bargain with the government, agreeing to plead guilty to vehicular homicide in exchange for dropping the other charges.

The court approved the plea agreement during the change of plea hearing on Tuesday.

Prior to proceeding with the change of plea hearing, Manglona inquired about notice given to the victim's family about the hearing as no family member was present.

The parties informed the

judge that members of the victim's family were present when the change of plea hearing date and time was set in court.

Satisfied that the victim's family was notified, Manglona proceeded with the hearing.

In her sentencing order, Manglona said Paulis is an unemployed single mother with three minor children.

On the date of the incident, Paulis was under the influence of alcohol, with a blood alcohol concentration greater than .08 percent, the legal limit. A police

report indicated a BAC result of .195 percent.

After the incident, Paulis assisted the victim's family with the funeral services.

The victim, Ayuyu, was a single man with no children.

Police said that on the evening of Aug. 21, 2009, Paulis was driving a pickup truck north along Kagman Road when she suddenly saw a man, later identified as Ayuyu, standing in front of her lane about five feet away.

Paulis steered left to avoid him, but the truck still hit Ayuyu.

Shirata, Dalusung are GCA's top elementary graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Kenichi Luke Shirata and Francis Joseph Dalusung were hailed outstanding students in this year's batch of Grace Christian Academy's elementary graduates.

The two led the school's 18-member Class of 2010 that were conferred diplomas during Wednesday's ceremony at the school auditorium.

Shirata, the son of Ichiro and Rose Shirata, was this year's valedictorian and recipient of the prestigious Eagle Award for demonstrating excellence in academics, citizenship, and Christian character. Shirata was also awarded numerous



KENICHI LUKE SHIRATA
Valedictorian

special recognitions.

In his message, Shirata credited his family for their support and assistance throughout the years. He shared that, even at a young age, he already knew



FRANCIS JOSEPH DALUSUNG
Salutatorian

what he wanted to become someday.

"I see myself as an architect 20 years from now...building a community for the poor, and establishing a healthy relation-

ship with others, so that they may know there are good people in the world that help others," he said.

Dalusung, who received salutatorian honors during the ceremony, shared the memorable experiences he'd had in the seven years he was at GCA.

"GCA taught me a lot of things that will continue to build my character. But I guess the most important lesson I have learned here is to 'think before you act...' Think about the consequences. Now this rule could really keep me from trouble," he said.

He also recognized the sacrifices and perseverance of his parents, friends, and educators to help him succeed in school.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Honor student Aileen Camille Dimaano is also a recipient of the prestigious Eagle runner-up award.

The son of Frank and Leah Dalusung, the school's second top graduate was also the recipient of other special awards.

GCA conferred the first honorable mention award on Delaney Kyle Chua; second honorable mention to Veeny France Revilla; and third honorable mention to Eden Abigail Deang.

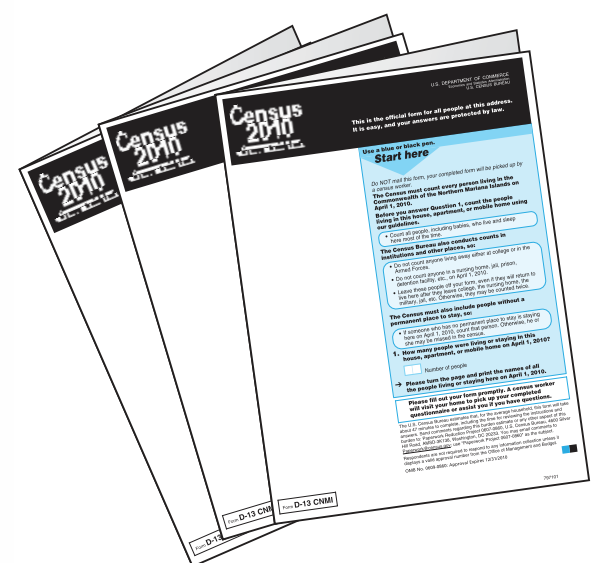
Three students were also recognized for successfully graduating with honors: Aileen Camille Dimaano, who was also the recipient of the prestigious Eagle runner-up award; Yujin Lee; and James Matthew Marasigan.

The ceremony was also highlighted by special presentations from the graduates and inspiring messages from Rev. Raymond S. Kinsella, the school's board chairman, and counselor Heather Linday.

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Saipan lawmakers approve \$45,000 for Liberation

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation approved yesterday a \$45,000 funding for the 2010 Liberation Day activities, a week before the official start of the month-long festivities on June 4.

The \$45,000 is part of an \$80,000 re-appropriated amount from poker fee collections, as proposed in a local bill.

The other \$35,000 has been re-ap-

propriated for other programs and activities on Saipan.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's approval, however, is still needed for the money to be released to the 2010 Liberation Day Committee

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, who was at the delegation session on Capital Hill yesterday, hoped that the governor will approve the \$45,000 funding for the Liberation Day festivities.

"I am very happy with the Saipan delegation's approval of the \$45,000. I

know they worked on this in a timely manner. I want to make sure that this year, there will be zero liability," Flores told Saipan Tribune.

Liberation Day festivities will start on June 4 and run until July 4, at the Garapan Fishing Base.

A portion of the municipality's revenue was being tapped for the building of festival booths while they wait for the Saipan lawmaker's approval of the funding request. These funds are still short but are expected to be supple-

day," she said.

Participating retailers in the energy rebate program also sent representatives to yesterday's ceremony, including YCO (Garapan), Pacific Home Appliances (Garapan), ACE Hardware Stores (Gualo Rai Branch, San Vicente Branch, Susupe Branch, and Rota Branch), Taro Sue Stores (Garapan).

\$100,000 for CNMI

Inos said the Division of Energy received \$100,000 in ARRA grant for this program. Of this amount, \$77,000 is available for vouchers to be distributed, and the rest is for administrative costs.

Inos said they will also be launching the program on Rota and Tinian.

Vincent Attao, energy auditor at the Division of Energy, said they will also be collecting data months down the road to check the decrease in power consumption by households that bought energy-efficient appliances.

Inos said the division is also thankful for Dana Schallheim of D&R International Limited and to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Of the \$28,950 worth of vouchers approved as of yesterday, \$13,800 were for 47 vouchers for refrigerators; \$9,300 for 31 vouchers for washers; and \$5,850 for 39 vouchers for air-conditioning units.

Application forms are still available at the CNMI Division of Energy office.

partly on reclaimed land off the coast of Henoko, faces intense opposition from residents and environmentalists.

The joint statement called for sensitivity to Okinawans' concerns.

"The Ministers recognized the importance of responding to the concerns of the people of Okinawa that they bear a disproportionate burden related to the presence of U.S. forces, and also recognized that the more equitable distribution of shared alliance responsibilities is essential for sustainable development of the alliance," they said.

They said they would consider moving military training facilities off of Okinawa, possibly to nearby Tokunoshima, or out of Japan completely. The accord called for more environmental stewardship, through which U.S. bases in Japan might incorporate renewable energy technology.

Hatoyama faces some dissent to the plan in his Cabinet. Gender Equality Minister Mizuho Fukushima, leader of a junior coalition party, refuses to support it and has in the past threatened to leave the coalition over the matter.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirofumi Hirano said the Cabinet was meeting Friday morning. Hatoyama was scheduled to hold a news conference on Futenma late Friday afternoon.

"It was a difficult decision as we have to ask Okinawans to shoulder a burden, but overall when you look at the whole picture, we are able ease the burden," Hirano said.

mented by the \$45,000 funding from Saipan lawmakers.

On a 17-0 vote, House Local Bill 17-15, D2 passed the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation yesterday afternoon.

The bill, introduced by House Floor Leader George N. Camacho (Ind-Saipan), re-appropriates \$80,000 from revenues generated from poker fees as appropriated by Saipan Local Law 16-4.

NMI

From Page 1

Don Quiroga, who is charged with murdering Isa and Tasi—the two lovers in the Guam legend—from which the name Two Lovers' Point in Guam is named from.

One of the 13 jurists, eighth grader Rizza Joy Butalon, said that after a thorough examination of evidence presented in the Guam Supreme Court, the group is convinced they rendered a fair and just decision in the case.

Hannah Alcorido, another NMI jurist, said the "outburst" and "outrageous behavior" shown by the respondent at cross-examination only strengthened the case of the opposing side.

Other members of the jury—Vanessa Sally, Jacklyn Garote, Maeyesha Terlaje, Sarah Cabalna, Maria Theresa Dizon, Christine Roque, Karl Louie Lacanilao, Linson Manahan, Wincel Mae Bubos, and Darren John Cajipo—also expressed confidence in the "justice" they served.

The Hopwood Junior High team was led by its principal, Jonas Barcinas, and teacher/coach Aaron Mar.

Barcinas said the school is thankful to acting Chief Justice Alexandro C.

Besides the \$45,000 for Liberation Day Festivities, \$10,000 has been re-appropriated to pay for costs associated with the Chamorro Language conference on Rota in April under a floor amendment offered by Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan). Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan) also offered a technical amendment.

The remaining \$25,000 has been re-appropriated for personnel costs at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Castro, Judge Ramona V. Manglona, and Clerk of Court Galo Perez from the CNMI Supreme Court for choosing Hopwood students for the unique event.

"We're very thankful for this historic opportunity! Overall, this event is a great help to our students to appreciate and learn more about the judicial system. This is a great learning experience," Barcinas told *Saipan Tribune* after yesterday's proceedings at the federal district court.

Castro said the event was a joint effort between Guam and the CNMI and was the first ever held on both islands.

The "mock trial play" is part of the Guam and NMI Law Week celebration.

Castro recognized the assistance of chief judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and the U.S. District Court of Guam for the success of the event.

"I am very pleased with the outcome. Students enjoyed the play [both here and Guam]...and we hope can do it again next year," Castro said.

He said they will explore the possibility of bringing both mock trial champion teams on two islands to a "competition" next year to bring more excitement to the event.

After the televised play, justices and judges in both courtrooms gave comments on the students' performances.

ENERGY

From Page 1

Laniyo was one of the first three recipients of a federally-funded program that gives incentives to households buying energy-efficient appliances, at a ceremony held by the Department of Public Works' Division of Energy in the governor's conference room on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon.

As of yesterday, the CNMI Division of Energy approved a total of 117 energy rebate vouchers worth \$28,950, said division director Thelma Inos.

"We also would like to let the public know that if they have been notified of their application's approval, they can now pick up their check from the Division of Energy office," she said.

All this is possible with the implementation in the CNMI of the State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program, an initiative that awards rebates of up to \$300 to households that buy energy-efficient appliances.

Anyone—regardless of income bracket—is eligible to apply for the energy rebate program, funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The rebate for a refrigerator is up to \$300. The rebate is also up to \$300 for a washer. For an air-conditioning unit, up to \$150.

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan said this energy rebate program is welcome news for the CNMI in these tough economic times. They said households will not only be helping to protect the environment, but also save on power bills.

"The whole idea is to get rid of old ones that are not energy-efficient and buy new ones that are more energy-efficient," the acting governor said.

First three recipients

Laniyo received three separate rebate vouchers: \$300 for a refrigerator, \$300 for a washer, and \$150 for an air-conditioner. These three products need to have Energy Star labels. All he needed to do is add a few hundreds to buy the environment-friendly appliances.

Aldebert C. Deleon Guerrero, a resident of Kannat Tabla, also received a \$300 voucher to help him buy a refrigerator.

"Every month, my power bill is some \$80. With a new refrigerator that's low on power consumption, I hope to get lower power bill starting next month," Deleon Guerrero said.

Mirabel M. Castro, a resident of Dandan, said she was surprised to receive a \$300 voucher to help her buy a refrigerator.

"I submitted my application on May 5, and they informed me yesterday that I will be able to receive my voucher to-

use of Japanese land and facilities. In return, the U.S. is obliged to respond to attacks on Japan and protect the country under its nuclear umbrella.

The U.S. and Japan "recognized that a robust forward presence of U.S. military forces in Japan, including in Okinawa, provides the deterrence and capabilities necessary for the defense of Japan and for the maintenance of regional stability," said the statement, which was issued by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Japanese Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada and Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa.

Reaffirming the 2006 deal comes as a relief for Washington. In a phone conversation with President Barack Obama Friday morning Japan time, Hatoyama said Obama "expressed appreciation that the two countries could reach an agreement."

The Futenma move is part of a broader plan to reorganize American troops in Japan that includes moving 8,000 Marines and their 9,000 dependents to the U.S. territory of Guam by 2014. But U.S. officials had said that the other pieces cannot move forward until the Futenma issue was resolved.

The two countries said an environmental impact assessment and construction of the replacement facility should proceed "without significant delay." The statement called for a logistical study to be completed by the end of August.

The base, whose plans call for a 1,800-meter (5,900-feet) runway built

MILITARY

From Page 1

sion is broadly in line with a 2006 deal forged with the previous, conservative Tokyo government, but represents a broken campaign promise on the part of Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama.

Hatoyama came to office last September promising to create a "more equal" relationship with Washington and move the Marine base off the island, which hosts more than half the 47,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan under a 50-year-old joint security pact.

But after months of searching and fruitless discussions with Washington and Okinawan officials, the prime minister acknowledged earlier this month that the base needed to stay in Okinawa.

His decision, which he had pledged to deliver by the end of May, has angered tens of thousand of island residents who complain about base-related noise, pollution and crime, and want Futenma moved off the island entirely.

U.S. military officials and security experts argued it is essential that Futenma remain on Okinawa because its helicopters and air assets support Marine infantry units based on the island. Moving the facility off the island could slow the Marines' coordination and response in times of emergency.

Under a 1960 security pact, American armed forces are allowed broad

DISCONNECTION

From Page 1

CUC executive director Tony Muña told acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos yesterday that CUC is patient with the government's non-payment of utility bills because CUC considers the government a partner in providing power, water and wastewater services.

"However, CUC is at a crossroad in needing to continue rehabilitation efforts of all utility systems plus ensure compliance [with] U.S. Environmental Protection Agency stipulated order requirements," Muña told Inos in a May 28 letter

The Fitial administration has yet to respond to media queries about CUC's notice.

"Effective today, and pursuant to CUC's Electric, Water, and Sewer Service Regulations and furthermore, pursuant to the Settlement Agreement... CUC will be issuing disconnection notices to all local government utility accounts that are past due. Unless otherwise settled, CUC will disconnect local government utility accounts as it does all other nongovernment accounts," Muña told Inos.

\$3.8M in govt past due accounts

In his two-page letter, Muna said based on a May 19 briefing he had with Inos and the legislative leadership, the central government, the Public School System and Northern Marianas College owe CUC \$3.8 million in utility bills.

"To ensure CUC's continuing reliability and financial stability, the local government utility billings [repre-

senting 15 percent of revenues billed monthly] must be paid promptly," Muña told Inos.

Direct fuel costs for providing electric services to all local government accounts is estimated at \$600,000 a month.

"When government payments are not received, their share of fuel costs are provided for from nongovernment collections to pay for fuel," Muña added.

In January, CUC filed a rate relief petition proposing to increase water and wastewater rates to finally achieve full cost recovery for the two divisions.

CUC awaits the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission decision, which it expected yesterday afternoon.

"However, an adequate rate is only one part of the equation for revenue stability. The other part is by way of fully collecting for every dollar billed," Muña said.

Outstanding billings to vendors

Muña also advised the leadership that CUC owes its vendors \$2.4 million in outstanding billings that are 45 days or older.

At the top of the list is a Power Plant 4 independent power producer vendor, which is owed \$800,000.

Next in line is a vendor that provides CUC pumps to ensure that water wells remain operational, at \$262,000. CUC has also suspended the overhaul of engine 8.

"CUC does not live by fuel alone. We need to ensure that the generators that depend on fuel can continue to produce power. Pumps that break down must be replaced. Chlorine that cleans out water must be purchased," Muña added.

Kilili requests added to fiscal 2011 National Defense bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is supporting passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2011, which raises the salary of U.S. military personnel by 1.9-percent and contains Sablan's amendment as approved by the House Armed Services Committee last week.

The House is expected to take action on the bill, H.R.

5136, this week.

Sablan wanted committee approval for a feasibility study for the establishment of an Army Post Exchange in the Northern Mariana Islands. The committee okayed the amendment and the vote on the overall bill was unanimous, 59-0.

In all, H.R. 5136 authorizes \$567 billion in budget authority for the Department

of Defense and the national security programs of the Department of Energy.

"With increasing numbers of our own people in the U.S. military and with increasing U.S. military presence in the Mariana Islands," said Sablan, "It is that much more important that we support appropriate levels of funding and make sure that our troops and their families have what they need."

H.R. 5136 also extends TRICARE coverage for dependent children of military personnel up to the age of 26. And the bill increases the maximum amount of hostile fire and imminent danger pay for the first time since 2004, increases the family separation allowance for our service members whose deployment or

temporary duty requires them to live away from their families, and restores the basic allowance for housing payments for two active duty spouses when one or both are on sea duty.

Sablan's amendment, accepted by the committee and now included in the bill, requires that a study be conducted by the Secretary of Defense to look into the current troops store at Lower Base on Saipan. Sablan wants Defense to consider replacing the current troop store with a full-service exchange store.

The Secretary is to assess the need to establish a commissary store and determine the appro-

priate size it should be. A results of the study are supposed to be sent to Congress within 90 days of the law going into effect.



Sablan

"Currently, there is only a small facility that many military personnel, retirees and their families consider inadequate," explained Sablan.

"I have received complaints regularly that the facility is under stocked, mer-

chandise selection is highly limited, and shipments to replenish supplies are infrequent. The building is also deteriorating and in need of a major overhaul.

"I believe our service members and their families, totaling almost 4,000, deserve better than what

the current troop store provides.

Sablan's second request is a technical correction to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy nomination process to make it the same for the Northern Marianas as it is for all other parts of the country.

"The Merchant Marine Academy is already using its discretion to treat the Northern Mariana Islands the same as the rest of the U.S. And this year we did have one of our own students appointed to the Academy.

"My amendment just makes it official."

Once finalized and approved by the House Rules Committee, H.R. 5136 will be scheduled for a vote on the House floor. Floor debate is expected to be this week. **(PR)**

DEMAPAN TO SANTA CLARA LAW GRADUATES

'Keep your values intact even as legal profession shifts around you'

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—Miguel S. Demapan, chief justice of the CNMI Supreme Court, keynoted the 99th commencement exercises of the Santa Clara University School of Law, urging the 350-member graduating class to keep their values in mind even as the legal world shifts around them.

The law school's graduation rites took place Saturday last week in the University's Mission Gardens, attended by about 3,500 friends and families of the graduating class.

Santa Clara University's School of Law is one of the most diverse law schools in the nation. The Class of 2010 comprises 32 percent Asian or Pacific Islander; 7 percent Hispanic; 3 percent African-American; and 54 percent Caucasian students, of which 45 percent are women and 55 percent men. Fifty-two already have advanced degrees.

Twenty-nine students received certificates in high-technology law; 24 in public interest and social justice; and 10 in international and comparative law.

Standing under a sweeping white awning on a sunny, windy morning, Demapan spoke of the rapid pace of change in the legal profession, including a challenging job environment and movement in Australia, the United Kingdom and elsewhere to allow law firms to be publicly traded. That raises questions about whether client concerns will get diluted in favor of shareholder demands for profits, he said.

"The legal community now

faces a new reality in today's society, in which firms are seen as business entities as much, or more so, than as a practice. ... Can the maximization of profits co-exist in a profession in which we owe the highest duties to both the court system and our clients?"

He spoke of how technology had empowered consumers of law and government. "People are now demanding more from their courts than ever before. They are more aware of their rights and what government should be doing for them and how their leaders should be held accountable."



Demapan

In his role as a former Superior Court judge and as the current chief justice, Demapan has presided over and written rulings on key issues for the CNMI, including cases of government bribery and abuse of power. He also recently oversaw an innovative movement to push home-foreclosure cases into mediation, rather than the courts, to help resolve one of the CNMI's top social crises.

Demapan, who received his law degree from Santa Clara Law in 1985, was introduced by the school's dean, Don Polden, and his speech followed a welcome by Santa Clara University's president Michael Engh, S.J. Engh urged the graduates to "be ethical, and strive for justice that is restorative and reconciling."

Demapan was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree, a poignant development given that he was unable to attend his own 1985 graduation ceremony due to pressing matters at home. **(Business Wire)**

US Navy sets training on FDM

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on June 1-2, from 11am to 7pm, and June 4-5, from 7pm-11:30pm. The general public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the

training will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides enough room for the different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the CNMI. **(PR)**



CHAMOLINIANS DISTANT VOICE



"BASIC JUSTICE ≠ SOCIAL JUSTICE"

- ★ **DON'T DEPRIVE US OF OUR DIGNITY AS CHAMORROS AND CAROLINIANS.**
- ★ **OFFICIAL CONSULTATION SHOULD BE DONE PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF THE OIA REPORT.**
- ★ **DON'T "OBAMANIZE" THIS SENSITIVE POLITICAL PROCESS.**

The people of the Marianas are not totally opposing the Improved Immigration status for the visiting workers because the issue has political ramification, due to mismanagement of our local leaders. However, our local Government claimed that it was not a participant in the deliberation of submitted report. I believe a simple overture of respect for the natives is apropos.

Submitted By:

Frank G. Cepeda
President
CNMI Veterans Association

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

'Don't ask, don't tell' compromise not good enough

All sorts of people step forward to defend their country by serving in the military. And the military is glad to have them: college grads, high school dropouts, men, women. Race doesn't matter, and actually, neither does citizenship. Close to 30,000 members of the U.S. military are not American citizens.

So it is astonishing that to this day, openly gay men and women are still not allowed to serve in the armed services. And though Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates took steps in March to make it harder to expel homosexuals from the military—by, for example, limiting the evidence that can be used against those suspected of being gay—the change nonetheless perpetuates the notion that gays and lesbians should have to live in fearful secrecy, as though they were criminals instead of patriots.

A new agreement reached this week between the White House and congressional Democrats isn't quite the outright rejection we'd like to see of "don't ask, don't tell." But it's a laudable compromise, the first real progress toward eliminating the Clinton-era policy that itself was intended as a compromise to allow homosexuals to serve without worrying that they would be asked about their sexual orientation—grounds for their dismissal.

Under the agreement, lawmakers would vote now to repeal the policy, but the new rules would go into effect only after the president, the Defense secretary and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff agreed that the military was ready. Meanwhile, Gates is conducting a review, scheduled to be completed by December, to determine whether the change would have adverse effects on the military. Ostensibly, that means whether troops would accept openly homosexual comrades in arms.

Ultimately, it shouldn't be their choice, just as they don't get to choose the race or religion of their fellow servicemen and women. But conservative opponents of ending "don't ask, don't tell" might have exaggerated the acceptance issue anyway. We'd guess that what matters most to the men and women who honor their country by protecting it is whether the people who serve with them have the drive and the ability to get the work done.



Viewing 'the other China,' beyond the economic boom

By TRUDY RUBIN
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

BEIJING—With all the media focus on "Rising China," another side of China gets far less attention. Call it "the other China," the bulk of the country's population that hasn't fully shared in the astonishing economic boom of the last 30 years that has transformed the country.

I'll be looking at "the other China" as part of a two-week Gatekeepers Editors' Trip to China sponsored by the International Reporting Project at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. We'll be traveling to rural areas in Sichuan and Yunnan provinces. We'll be looking at China's urban-rural divide, at the pressing environmental and health issues the country faces. We'll also be examining the economic challenges China must confront if it is to close its rising gap between rich and poor—and maintain stability at home.

China's level of development matters to the rest of the world for many reasons. For example, a China still focused primarily on domestic development is less likely to pursue adventures abroad (although its search for resources to fuel its growth has led to a much more active foreign policy). And a China that considers itself part of the developing world will be less willing to commit to the emissions targets sought by industrialized nations to combat global warming.

Yet, China's growth spurt is so constant, its evolution so dynamic, that its global economic status is difficult to define.

Ten years ago, the prominent Chinese economist Hu Angang coined the phrase One China, Four Worlds. China's First World, says Sinologist Anne Thurston, includes its biggest cities, Beijing, Tianjin, and Shanghai. Its Second World is made up of the less affluent but still fairly prosperous belt along its eastern coast.

The population of these two worlds amounts to about 300 million out of 1.3 billion Chinese, she says. But the bulk of China's population, she points out, lives in its Third World, a larger belt running north to south inland from the coastal areas. The country's Fourth (and poorest) World includes its impoverished provinces in the West, where average income is below \$3 a day.

"Just as China is growing faster than any country, its rate of inequality is also growing faster," says Thurston. That inequality, she says, takes several forms: urban vs. rural, East (prosperous) China vs. West, and the inequality within large cities, created by the massive migration of rural poor to urban areas in search of work.

Visiting Beijing for the first time in five years it is certainly possible to imagine that one is in the First World.

Post-Olympics, China's capital sports endless new rows of glass skyscrapers, some with strange shapes, or curving roofs, and a massive, glitzy new airport terminal. High-end shopping malls line the

major boulevards, and traffic jams outpace the highways expanding ever outward in concentric circles.

Students at elite Tsinghua University have the sophistication of their counterparts at Harvard or MIT. They dress in T-shirts and jeans, many speak English and have traveled abroad, and most blog. They hop on bicycles to wheel around a large leafy campus that has a familiar college feel. (These students live far more prosperous lives than did their parents: one doctoral candidate in oceanography told me she and her parents shared two small rooms with another family when she was a small child; the family was finally able to move to a two-bedroom apartment when she was 16. I heard similar stories from many other young Chinese.)

Young working people in a high-rise office complex duck into Starbucks for a latte, and troop down to a basement mall to pick up lunch fixings at a supermarket. At night, the restaurants around Qianhai Lake are filled with young people out on dates or in groups, and Chinese joggers in sweatpants swing by women walking their dogs. The whole scene is illuminated by shimmering lanterns hung from posts around the water's edge.

But these snapshots reflect only a tiny slice of a country whose economy is in constant flux.

China's politicians and academics argue among themselves about where China stands on the economic ladder. On a visit to Hu Angang, at Tsinghua's school of Public Policy and Management, he insisted his famous phrase was obsolete. "My slogan of One China, Four Worlds was for 10 years ago." Using new analytic tools, he now insists that China mainly belongs to the First and Second Worlds, with only Tibet still languishing in Third World status. In his estimate, China's Fourth World has now disappeared.

On the other hand, Xie Zhenhua, vice chairman of China's National Development and Reform Commission and a key negotiator in climate-change talks at Copenhagen, Denmark, told us that "China is still a developing country . . .

"Development in Beijing and Shanghai does not represent all development in China," Xie insisted. He said that when House Speaker Nancy Pelosi recently traveled by high-speed rail on a visit to China last year, "she thought it showed that China was not a developing country. But there are still great disparities between rural and urban communities and between East and West China, so I hope you can perceive China with an overall view."

That's what I'll be trying to do in the coming two weeks.

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at trubin@phillynews.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Can bikes rule Beach Road?

My mother let me tag along with elder sister to public school four years after World War II and she ditched me over at first grade while attending second. To my mom's surprise, when she tried to register me the next year, she was told that I had already completed first grade and would have to move on to second. This was chaotic rural Philippines, at the foothills of Northern Luzon cordilleras.

Sixty students per class was the rule. Principals moved us forward as fast as they could. Prolific Pinoy baby makers took their procreative task religiously so there were a lot of us. We all pulled up short pants to go to school, and then shed them off upon returning home to play with other kids who had done the same. There still lingered an age of innocence at the time. Ladies from the mountains would come down on market day to sell their wares wearing nothing from the waist up, and us kids wore nothing from the waist down until we were 6. The mountain folks were featured in *National Geographic*; no one bothered with us! Pedophilia was not yet in vogue.

I was only 12 and in eighth grade when my mom foisted the carrot that if I improved my academic performance, she would get me a bike. Dad left for Kentucky to pursue a master's degree so we moved to Iberian Ilocandia. I was the eldest boy in a family of five, and I had to skip teen years to become the "head" of the family. At the time, a bike was essential for anyone to get anywhere, quite literally.

Optimism was abroad; Uncle Sam had affable General Ike. Heartstrings pursued Pat Boones' love letter writing on the sand; headstrong instincts bump-and-grind-it with Elvis, his pelvic moves infuriating elders but kept sisters a-giggling into the night. But the West's underbelly had McCarthy and virulent anti-Red in the East. I was eager to pedal away, even beyond the Pacific shores.

Mind you, all this is *pasacalle* (Pinoy's musical "introductory strain") to my bike(s) story. Anyone who was anybody when I was growing up had one. Cars were a luxury. Only the landed gentry, politicians, and the newly arrived rich mandarins from Xiamen (who escaped the peasants' fury and headed to Formosa and points south), could afford one. But they were not people. We lived with a maternal uncle, a politician who had several vehicles but we were not allowed to even get close to them lest we scratch the buffed and polished exterior. Aspiring hoi polloi latched on Willis engines left by American GIs, creating the ubiquitous jeepney of Philippine roads.

A debonair congressman used to visit our house. He was allowed use of the cars. He brought his bride for an evening meal when he became a senator. We all tried to find an excuse to deliver something to the kitchen so that we could glimpse the renowned *Waray*

beauty that found home in the recalcitrant ways of *Manong Bidoy*. Ferdinand Marcos rose to prominence and later, notoriety, while 'Imeldific' entered the lexicon to mean a defined aesthetic sense and an appetite for shoes! Conjugal dictatorship and political kleptocracy enriched global media vocabulary.

A little exposure to the upper class did not hurt my academics. So I earned a one-gear iron bar-and-spikes bike when "Made in Japan" still meant "cheap and poorly made." It served me well for a decade until it got handed down to a kin to assist his livelihood. In turn, I learned to ride the new Honda 60cc motorized bike.

After traversing continents in two decades of wanderlust, I lugged a 10-speed light aluminum Peugeot back to my Pea Eye biking days. *Ladrones*, it was immediately stolen in Mactan. My pedaling legs did keep me off diabetes but the roar of a 250cc trail bike engine led to a less than physically demanding regimen. The onset of a beer gut followed; it will protrude me to the grave!

Pedalists dominated Kowloon of the mid-'60s while they disappeared from the streets of Tokyo, a hazard to the kamikaze taxis in Ginza and Shinjuku. It was not healthy to pedal behind Manila's fumes either. Campuses of America still moved on two wheels though Detroit's Model T-Ford had long ago sold the American foot pedal to the Interstate Highway. At 19-cents a gallon of Texas gas, we were too lazy to pedal. Easy Rider Harleys were also sexy and inexpensive. And Mustang was the mascot of my school!

Pedicabs did not get motorized until the '70s. Pedaling dominated the rural streets of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indochina. Commuters on wide French boulevards of Hanoi flowed on sweat fuel, as did the streets of Saigon, Phnom Penh, Bangkok and Vientiane before the era of napalm and saturation bombing. So did the streets of India's Maharashtra, same with oil-rich Nigeria and Venezuela, and wherever one found the rest of the peasants and working classes in the world.

I can still picture Tiananmen Square in '89 when bicycles were king. They reigned in the streets of tourist destinations like the ancient capital Xi'an of Qin Shi Huangdi and the terra cotta soldiers of Suzhou's rock-water gardens, and Hangzhou's West Lake and man-made canal to Beijing. Even Shanghai of the Mao Zedong era rode on bicycles. But now, only eco-diehards still cling to them; the buses and the Metro are too efficient.

My Canadian daughter in Oahu uses bike rack-equipped buses to get around. The Portland trams accommodate bicycles, being a city that builds bike holders and encourages residents to bike. Ivan Groom now in Florida, whose brainchild created the amphitheatre and demo structures to stem water runoff pollution to the lagoon

There are also other reasons for concern. Though the most recent data showed a large increase in new-home sales—prompted, no doubt, by the First-Time Homebuyer tax credit Washington dished up as part of its stimulus plan—property values continue to fall. The tax credit expired on April 30 and it's unclear whether buyer enthusiasm will continue.

We're also concerned by what we see in the primary "lagging" indicators, such as the average duration of unemployment and the value of manufacturing and trade inventories and commercial and industrial loans.

An increase in the lagging indicators would confirm a strong recovery. Instead, all six indices continue to contract.

Almost half of all unemployed people have been without jobs for six months or more. The average now exceeds 31 weeks, nearly double the pre-recession level. The value of commercial and industrial loans continues to fall. This is the capital that typically fuels the economy—that businesses use to grow. Similar to the decreases in consumer debt, the declining business-loan values reflect unwillingness both to lend and borrow, as well as uncertainty about the strength and depth of the recovery.

This uncertainty is not limited to banks and borrowers. Last month, the National Bureau of Economic Research's Business-Cycle Dating Committee—the official arbiter of turning points in the business cycle (when expansions and recessions begin and end)—met to discuss whether the end of the recession could be determined. Amid some dissent, they decided the available data weren't sufficient to make the call.

Despite the positive signs, many hurdles lie ahead. The European credit crisis poses a potential problem and our own fiscal concerns remain unresolved.

The leading indicators tell us the economy is recovering. But only time will tell how long it will take for the more than 8 million jobs lost in the recession to reappear—and how many may be lost forever.

Kenneth D'Amica is a research associate with the American Institute for Economic Research, 250 Division Street, Great Barrington, Mass. 01230; website: www.aier.org.

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

on Quartermaster Rd., once talked about establishing 25-cent bike rental sheds along Beach Road that would run on honesty system, like newspapers in dispensing machines. Colleagues reminded him of our *ladrones* tradition. The bike shed idea went the way the dispensers are now slowly being dispensed with.

A friend gave me a bike as a present in Hawaii prior to coming to Saipan. I was advised, however, that biking on Saipan is a contact sport. I am stubborn. I had not been bumped or ran off the road yet, but *Ladrones*, three of my bikes were "borrowed" without my permission. Don't matter! A bike lane from the VOA relay station in San Antonio to Marpi would not be a bad idea, though. I'd even get me another bike! Biking is society at a human scale. Let's get human again!

Letters to the Editor

Conceding the point

I withdraw my comments regarding the atomic bombs that were partially assembled by the U.S. military on Tinian just before WWII ended. I agree with the opposing views that with all the advancement of mankind—such as the splitting of the atom and the greatest contribution by Albert Einstein—are supposed to be good. One often wonders about the shadow of this advancement in human history and whether this really was meant for the good of humankind and the will of God. The U.S. has played God for so long, perhaps we should be able to play a good game for the betterment of mankind that all its acquired and considered knowledge are bright and good for humanity.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

An invitation to rally

To the indigenous of the CNMI: I respectfully wish to remind all of you, young and old, that our rally is today, May 29, 2010. The rally will be held at the Civic Center basketball court in Susupe at 1pm in the afternoon. I humbly urge the indigenous people to join this historical event to show our strong unified position against the Department of the Interior's report to the U.S. Congress. The rally will feature speakers from the community representing the youth, young adults, current leaders and other prominent members of our economy.

Our rally is not against anyone or for that matter, the guest workers and other visitors in the CNMI. It is more to show the U.S. Congress that their actions will be very detrimental to the livelihood of the indigenous of the Marianas. We want to show our political partners in Washington D.C. that the indigenous of the Mariana Islands have voice and rights as established by the United Nation. We also would like to invite all other people who support our cause.

Please come to the rally!

Juan I. Tenorio
Tanapag, Saipan

Great job Marianas Eye Institute

Thanks Dr. David Khorram for trying very hard to meet the needs of people with disability. Your eye clinic is now 100-percent accessible! Being a high-maintenance big fella on a 4x4 wheelchair, I felt great that I can move around your clinic with ease. There are two waiting rooms, and the wonderful staff and all the attendants are a plus.

I am always so grateful also for the fruit basket on the counter. Bananas, oranges, apples, and sometimes grapes teach the visitors of the importance of healthy choices. Great job, Marianas Eye Institute!

Alexandro "The Colonel" Sablan
Dandan, Saipan

By **KENNETH D'AMICA**

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Many Americans are wondering how the unemployment rate could increase from 9.7 percent to 9.9 percent during April when the U.S. economy added 290,000 new jobs.

The answer is simple: The rate increased because many unemployed people who were discouraged and had stopped looking for work re-entered the job market and became statistics again.

Though the economic news has improved significantly in recent months, significant uncertainties persist. The unemployment increase serves as a reminder that the economy is still on the mend.

The American Institute for Economic Research has been studying and analyzing U.S. economic trends since the Great Depression. On May 3 we reported, for the first time in almost six years, that all of the leading economic indicators we analyze that show discernable trend lines are tracking up, or expanding. This includes such important factors as new orders for capital goods, average manufacturing workweek, and the ratio of sales to inventories.

We also reported that a second set of economic figures, what we call the "primary roughly coincident" indicators, also strengthened in April. This includes industrial production, manufacturing and trade sales, and gross domestic product.

But there are reasons for concern as well.






Recent employment gains, for example—573,000 new jobs in February, March and April—have not yet translated into significantly increased consumer spending. This can be seen in the two leading economic indicators that are not clearly trending upward: new orders for consumer goods and changes in consumer debt. We upgraded the consumer debt category in our most recent analysis of business-cycle trends, but not because consumers are spending significantly more and taking on additional debt. We did so because the rate at which consumer debt is shrinking has slowed.

The decline in consumer debt has been driven mostly by reductions in credit card debt, which may have as much to do with the banks' stricter lending standards as with consumers' unwillingness to spend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Palau	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 7
Yap	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Majuro	Partly Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 78

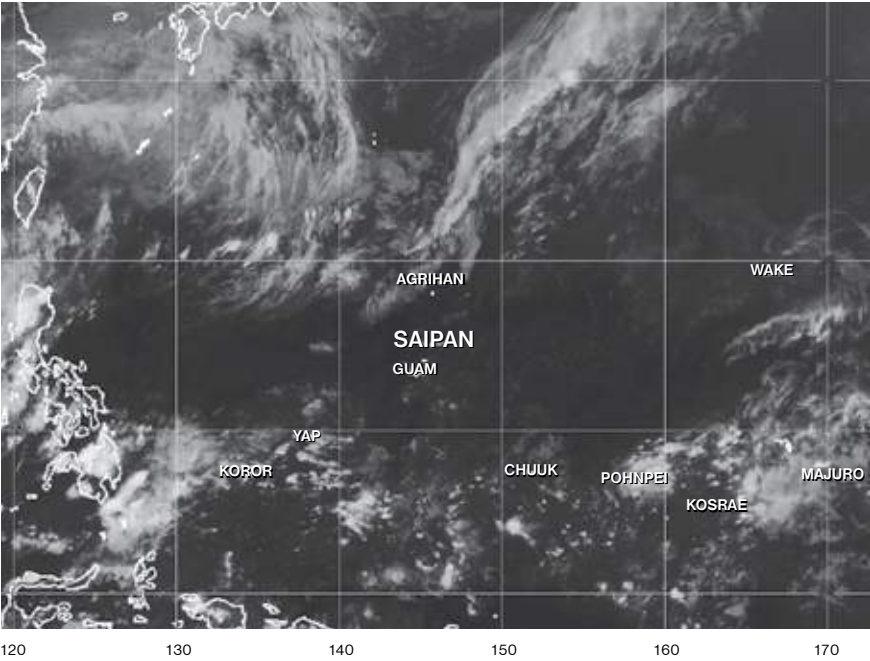
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▼ 53
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 73
London	Showers	▲ 57 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 93 ▼ 84
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 76 ▼ 61
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 57
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 72 ▼ 56
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 56
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 61
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 52
Seoul	Showers	▲ 72 ▼ 58
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 64 ▼ 60
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 75 ▼ 65

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:37 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet	
7:15 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	
2:50 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet	
10:02 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N145E to 22N139E then continues westward as a nearly stationary front to beyond 130E at 21N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of the cold front while cloudiness and scattered showers are occurring along and up 350 miles north of the stationary front. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers just north of Yap within 75 miles of a line from 8N130E to 11N138E. Trade-wind convergence is also producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms well southwest of Chuuk within 50 miles of a line from 5N145E to 7N146E just southeast of Pohnpei within 75 miles of a line from 7N158E to 5N160E and finally across the Marshall Islands between 3N and 10N from 165E to 176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:59 PM	6:30 AM
Sunday	8:50 PM	7:25 AM
Monday	9:37 PM	8:20 AM
Tuesday	10:19 PM	9:12 AM
Wednesday	10:58 PM	10:03 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 27, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05am	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Schedule of Religious Services										
CATHOLIC										
Mt. Carmel Cathedral Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm Monday-Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm										
Korean Center Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm										
Kristo Rai Parish Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am Monday- Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm Saturday: 6am and 6pm										
Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish Wednesday Mass: 6pm First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm Saturday Mass: 6pm Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am										
Saint Jude Parish Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm										
San Antonio Parish Sunday: 6am and 8am Tuesday and Friday: 6pm										
San Francisco de Borja-Rota Sunday: 6am and 8am Monday-Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6pm										
San Isidro-Rota Sunday: 5am and 10am Monday-Wednesday: 7pm Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm										
San Jose (Oleai) Parish Sunday: 6am and 7:30am Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm										
San Roque Parish Sunday: 9am Wednesday: 6pm Saturday: 10:30am										
San Vicente Parish Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm Monday-Saturday: 6pm										
Santa Remedios Sunday: 7:30am Tuesday: 6pm Saturday: 10am-Baptism										
Santa Soledad Sunday: 7:30am										
PROTESTANT										
Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm										
Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm										
Chinese Christian Church of Saipan Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm										
Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan Worship/Study Opportunities Adult Sunday School: 9am Youth Sunday School: 9am English Worship Service Sunday: 10am Sunday Service: 5:30pm Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm; Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm Mid-week Service: 7:30pm Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm										
Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau, Call 235-0545 for directions										
Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan Worship Service: 9am GBI Classes: 4-6pm Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am Sunday: 7am Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm										
Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog) Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog) Sunday: 6:45am (English) Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)										
Immanuel United Methodist Church Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral) Worship Service: 9:00am Children's Sunday School: 9:00am Choir Practice: 8:00am Singspiration: 8:30am Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158										
Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation) Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal										
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog) 9:15am-Sunday School Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church) Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)										
Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan English Service: 9-11am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday										
Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan Sunday School: 8:20am Sunday Adult: 10am Sunday Adult: 11:30am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm										
Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)										
Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan English Worship Service: 9-10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm										
Missions Connection Ministry Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm										
Northern Marianas Christian Church Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided) Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620										
Saipan Bible Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30-10am Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm										
Saipan Christian Church Sunday: 7:30am-10am Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)										
Saipan Church of Christ Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 6pm Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm										
Saipan Community Church (Sunday Services) Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm										
Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan (Saturday Church Services) Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm										
First Baptist Church (Formerly Saipan Baptist Church) Afetna St., San Antonio Sunday <table><tr><td>9am</td><td>Sunday school</td></tr><tr><td>10am</td><td>Regular worship</td></tr><tr><td>6pm</td><td>worship</td></tr></table> Wednesday <table><tr><td>7pm</td><td>worship</td></tr></table> Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.			9am	Sunday school	10am	Regular worship	6pm	worship	7pm	worship
9am	Sunday school									
10am	Regular worship									
6pm	worship									
7pm	worship									
Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center Phone 234-0209 New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches. Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi Service Times Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism										
Upper Room International Ministries Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer <table><tr><td>7am-9am</td><td>English service</td></tr><tr><td>7am-9am</td><td>Sunday school</td></tr><tr><td>10am-12noon</td><td>English service,</td></tr></table> Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan			7am-9am	English service	7am-9am	Sunday school	10am-12noon	English service,		
7am-9am	English service									
7am-9am	Sunday school									
10am-12noon	English service,									
Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship:10:30am Sunday PM Worship:7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S										

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 29, 2000

CUC declines Woodruff's legal services offer
The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation on Friday agreed to hire a private legal counsel on a sole-source contract after it rejected a proposal for legal services submitted by Senate legal counsel, Steve Woodruff. It would not be for the best interest of the government-owned corporation to accept the offer made by an individual who helped craft legislation on the procurement of the 80-megawatt power plant on Saipan, according to board members. Because of its crucial role in forging ahead with the controversial project, CUC will have to find a private law firm that will guide the board during the negotiation process with the selected bidder, Enron.

Lawyer seeks audit of Japanese company
Lawyer James H. Grizzard has asked the Superior Court to order Suwaso Inc. and its president and cheif executive officer Akio Hara to hire a certified public accounting firm that will audit the Japanese company amid charges of illegal financial transactions. Despite a board resolution on Sept. 21, 1998 that a certified accounting firm be appointed to audit the company., Mr. Hara has refused to do so which was in violation of his fiduciary obligation to the corporation and its shareholders, Mr. Grizzard said. In a civil suit, Mr. Grizzard emphasized the need to investigate and rectify the alleged financial improprieties that have been reported in a separate civil case filed before the Superior Court in mid-1998 entitled Hyakumata & Co. Ltd. v. Suwaso Corp.

May 29, 2001

Businessman defends Splash Island relocation
Sea Ventures Island, Inc. President Anthony Pellegrino deplored a recent National Park Service report on Splash Island, claiming it was copied from a manual and was conducted without proper investigation. Mr. Pellegrino questioned claims that the Splash Island will be detrimental to the aesthetic and soundscape value of the American Memorial Park, “when it only rises as high as a meter above the water, not counting the eight-foot tall water slide.” The businessman also defended that Splash Island would not affect the soundscape of the park because it is moored a “good” mile away from its shore.

CPA eyes expansion of Saipan airport runway
Problems relating to transportation have long been identified to be major a major factor in the apparently stagnating economic activity in the CNMI, prompting the Commonwealth Ports Authority to draw up plans aimed at improving the islands’ transit facilities. The agency is looking at expanding the runway of the Saipan International Airport from 8,600 feet to 10,600 feet since its current capacity restricts the facility from accommodating direct flights from the mainland United States, CPA Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said. At present, the airport can only receive flights from the closer Asian cities.

May 29, 2002

Sparks fly in Senate public hearing
Sparks flew during yesterday’s Senate Committee on Health and Welfare public hearing, with the chairman of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund’s Board of Trustees storming out of the Senate chamber due to what he said was his frustration over the incessant whining of local health care providers. In defiance of repeated calls by Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig, chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, for him to sit down and control himself, Board Chair Vicente Camacho stood up and scored the representatives of local private health care providers for their unremitting complaints, saying the Board has no plans of changing anything just to accommodate the complaints of two private health care providers. Camacho was referring to the Saipan Health Clinic and the Island Medical Center, whose representatives have been very vocal in their opposition to some of the proposed amendments to the Group Health and Life Insurance Program regulations, the hiring of Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral as Group Health’s third-party administrator, and the provisions in the participating provider agreement that would be signed between HPMR and private health care providers on-island.

Business

Gulf leak eclipses Exxon Valdez as worst US spill



AP
Julie Cambre, top, who owns property near the beach, checks on the oil spill in Grand Isle, La., Thursday, May 27, 2010.

ROBERT, La. (AP)—As BP labored for a second day Thursday to choke off the leak at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, dire new government estimates showed the disaster has easily eclipsed the Exxon Valdez as the biggest oil spill in U.S. history.

The company announced late in the day that it had suspended shooting heavy drilling mud into the blown-out well 5,000 feet underwater around midnight Wednesday so it could bring in more materials.

The procedure known as a top kill was expected to resume Thursday night, but it could be late Friday or the weekend before the company knows if it has cut off the oil that has been flowing for five weeks.

As the world waited, President Barack Obama announced major new restrictions on drilling projects, and the head of the federal agency that regulates the industry resigned under pressure, becoming the highest-ranking political casualty of the crisis so far.

BP insisted the top kill was progressing as planned, though the company acknowledged drilling mud was escaping from the broken pipe along with the leaking crude.

“The fact that we had a bunch of mud going up the riser isn’t ideal but it’s not necessarily indicative of a problem,” said spokesman Tom Mueller.

Early Thursday, officials said the process was going well, but later in the day they announced pumping had been suspended 16 hours earlier.

The top kill is the latest in a string of attempts to stop the oil that has been spewing since the drilling rig Deepwater Horizon exploded April 20. Eleven workers were killed.

If the procedure works, BP will inject cement into the well to seal it permanently. If it doesn’t, the company has a number of backup plans. Either way, crews will continue to drill two relief wells, considered the only sure-fire way to stop the leak.

A top kill has never been attempted before so deep underwater. BP Chief Operating Officer Doug Suttles said the company is also considering shooting small, dense rubber balls or assorted junk such as golf balls and rubber scraps to stop up a crippled five-story piece of equipment known as a blowout preventer to keep the mud from escaping.

The stakes were higher than ever as public frustration over the spill grew and a team of government scientists said the oil has been flowing at a rate 2 1/2 to five times higher than what BP and the Coast Guard previously estimated.

Two teams of scientists calculated the well has been spewing between 504,000 and more than a million gallons a day. Even using the most conservative estimate, that means about 18 million gallons have spilled so far. In the worst-case scenario, 39 million gallons have leaked.

That larger figure would be nearly four times the size of the Exxon Valdez disaster, in which a tanker ran aground in Alaska in 1989, spilling nearly 11 million gallons.

Nation

House approves repeal of gay ban in military

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House on Thursday delivered a victory to President Barack Obama and gay rights groups by approving a proposal to repeal the law that allows gays to serve in the military only if they don't disclose their sexual orientation.

The 234-194 vote to overturn the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy reflected a view among many in Congress that America was ready for a military in which gays and straights can stand side by side in the trenches.

"I know that our military draws its strength on the integrity of our unified force, and

current law challenges this integrity by creating two realities within the ranks," Rep. Susan Davis, D-Calif., said.

Republicans, who voted overwhelmingly against it, cited statements by some military leaders that they need more time to study how a change in the law could affect the lives and readiness of service members.

The House vote came just hours after the Senate Armed Services Committee took the same course and voted 16-12 in favor of repealing the 1993 law. In both cases the measure was offered as an amendment to a defense spending bill.



Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, addresses cadets during graduation ceremonies at the United States Air Force Academy in Air Force Academy, Colo. on Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

Obama and leading Democrats, including House Speaker

Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., had actively supported the repeal so that gays could serve in the military without fear of being exposed and discharged.

In a statement after the House vote, Obama hailed the day's congressional action as "important bipartisan steps toward repeal."

"This legislation will help make our armed forces even stronger and more inclusive by allowing gay and lesbian soldiers to serve honestly and with integrity," Obama said.

"This is the beginning of the end of a shameful ban on open service by lesbian and gay troops that has weakened our national security," Joe Solomonese, president of Human Rights Campaign, a leading gay rights organization, said after the Senate panel's vote.

During an all-day House debate on the bill approving more than \$700 billion in spending for defense programs, Repub-

licans repeated statements by military service chiefs that Congress should not act before the Pentagon completes a study on the impact of a repeal.

Congress going first "is the equivalent to turning to our men and women in uniform and their families and saying, 'Your opinion, your view, do not count,'" said Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon of California, the top Republican on the House Armed Services Committee.

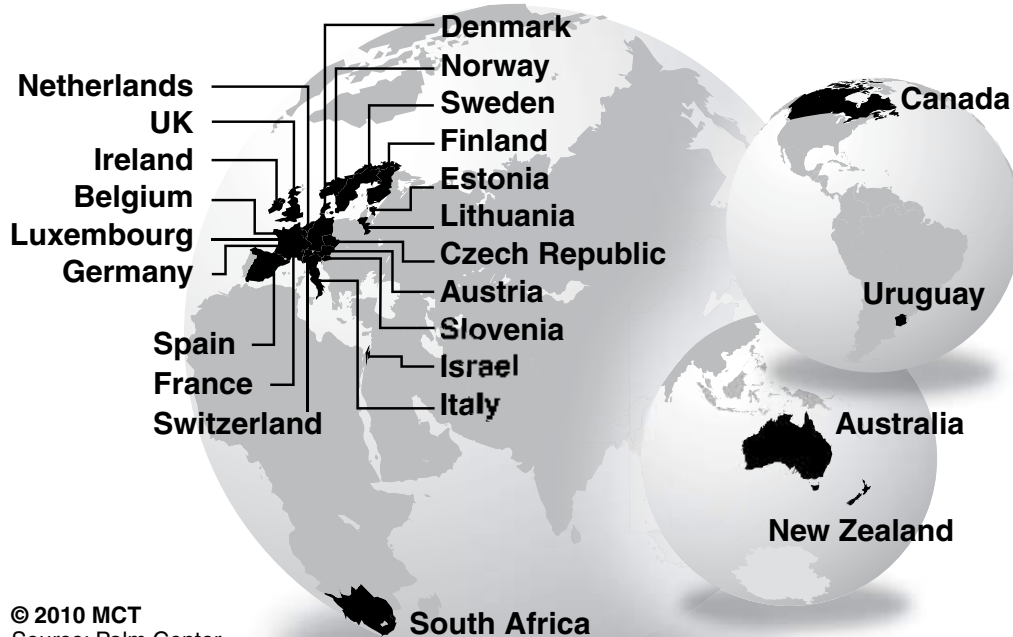
Democratic supporters stressed that the amendment was written so that the repeal would not go into effect until after the Pentagon publishes

in December the results of a survey on how service members and their families view the change, and until the president, the defense secretary and the Joint Chiefs of Staff certify that the repeal will not affect the military's ability to fight.

The chief sponsor of the amendment, Rep. Patrick Murphy, D-Pa., who served in the Iraq War, said that when he was in Baghdad "my teams did not care whether a fellow soldier was straight or gay if they could fire their assault rifle or run a convoy down ambush alley and do their job so everyone would come home safely."

In the military

Countries that allow gays to serve openly in the military:



© 2010 MCT
Source: Palm Center
Graphic: Melina Yingling

ACROSS THE NATION

Judge convicts Ark. mom in Facebook flap with son

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.

(AP)—An Arkansas woman who locked her son out of his Facebook account and posted her own items there was convicted Thursday of misdemeanor harassment and ordered not to have contact with the teenager. Clark County District Judge Randy Hill ordered Denise New, of Arkadelphia, to pay a \$435 fine and complete anger-management and parenting classes. He said he would consider allowing her to see her 17-year-old son, Lane New, who lives with his grandmother, if Denise New takes the two courses. The mother and son testified during the two-hour trial that they once had a good relationship but that it began to deteriorate this spring. They said the dispute that led to the Facebook postings arose when the boy was visiting his mother. She had asked him to return a key to her home, which he declined to do, and she then refused to let him into the house to retrieve some of his belongings.

in an Arizona prison on felony weapons misconduct charges in the Tucson area before being released in April 2009.

US predicts up to 7 major Atlantic hurricanes

MIAMI (AP)—The Atlantic hurricane season could be the busiest since 2005, when Katrina and Rita caused massive destruction along the same part of the Gulf Coast now struggling with the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history, government scientists said Thursday. The 2010 season may spawn as many as 23 named tropical storms, including up to seven major hurricanes, a number not likely to be affected by the spill, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted. Eight to 14 storms would strengthen into hurricanes, with top winds of 74 mph or higher, the agency said. Three to seven of those could become major storms that reach Category 3 or higher—meaning they bring sustained winds of at least 111 mph.

Woman says she fell asleep, woke up alone on plane

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. (AP)—

A Michigan woman who fell asleep on a United Express flight to Philadelphia says she woke up and was shocked to find she was alone on the plane. Ginger McGuire said no one had awakened her when the plane landed more than three hours earlier. She said she paced the aisle for about 15 minutes early Tuesday until the locked door opened and police demanded identification. "Waking up to an empty airplane and not being able to get out—it was very horrifying," McGuire, 36, told reporters Thursday as her lawyer announced a lawsuit. McGuire said she simply fell asleep after a long trip that stretched from Detroit to suburban Washington and, finally, Philadelphia. She said the plane landed Tuesday about 12:30 a.m. EDT.

Senate OKs war funding; House to cut spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate easily passed an almost \$60 billion war funding bill Thursday, but anxiety over out-of-control budget deficits led House leaders to drop tens of billions of dollars in spending from a separate catchall bill anchored by an extension of jobless benefits.

Confronted with a rebellion by Democratic moderates, House leaders planned to dump overboard \$24 billion in aid to states and allow generous health insur-

ance subsidies for laid-off workers to expire. The changes were an effort to round up votes to extend unemployment benefits and renew more than 50 popular tax breaks that expired last year.

Help for doctors facing a big cut in Medicare reimbursements would also be dropped from the measure, aides and lobbyists said, and is unlikely to be resurrected by a vote on Friday.

Democrats will miss their self-imposed deadline of passing the jobless benefits measure

before Memorial Day, even if the House passes the bill Friday. The Senate announced Thursday that it will not hold any more votes until senators return from their holiday break June 7.

The steps by House leaders could reduce the deficit impact of the bill to as little as \$30 billion or so in hopes of winning over moderate "Blue Dog" Democrats unhappy about adding to the deficit as the national debt is on the verge of topping \$13 trillion. A version circulated

last week would have added \$134 billion to the deficit.

One Blue Dog, Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Texas, said he would probably vote for a slimmed down version of the bill.

"The bigness issue and the deficit issue has been addressed," Cuellar said.

Across the Capitol, Senate Democrats had far better success in advancing the war funding bill, which would pay for President Barack Obama's 30,000 troop increase in Afghanistan.

NY man's kidney transplant gave him woman's cancer

NEW YORK (AP)—The scenario was unique, as far as doctors could tell: A man had gotten a transplanted kidney from a woman who had uterine cancer and didn't know it.

Vincent Liew decided to keep the kidney after his transplant surgeon concluded there was only a slim chance he could be sickened by the feminine cancer—advice that gambled with Liew's life and lost, a lawyer for his widow told jurors Thursday in what experts

say may be the only known case of uterine cancer being transmitted by transplant.

Jurors began deliberating the case against NYU Langone Medical Center Thursday afternoon and were to return on Friday.

Langone should be held responsible "for taking a huge risk with Vincent Liew's life" by not urging him to have the kidney removed at once, Daniel Buttafuoco said during closing arguments in the medical-malpractice case, which is re-

freshing longstanding questions about organ transplant risks and rewards.

NYU Langone Medical Center says it advised Liew of the risk, honored his choice and aggressively monitored the kidney for signs of cancer. Though tests found nothing, Liew suffered back pain and ultimately had the kidney removed about six months after the 2002 transplant. He died about three weeks later of cancer that came from his donor, his autopsy said,

without specifying the type of cancer. He was 37.

"This should not have happened, but it's not NYU Medical Center's fault. It's not (transplant surgeon Dr. Thomas) Diflo's fault. It's not Mr. Liew's fault," the hospital's lawyer, Robert Elliott, said in his summation. "The best care that could have been provided was."

Liew's widow, Kimberly, is seeking more than \$3 million in damages in her lawsuit against the hospital.

Asia



India rescue workers gather at the scene of a train crash in Sardiha, West Bengal state, about 90 miles (150 kilometers) west of Calcutta, India, early Friday, May 28, 2010. AP

Train blast, collision kill at least 65 in India

SARDIHA, India (AP)—A bomb planted by suspected Maoist rebels derailed an overnight passenger train which was then hit by a cargo train in eastern India on Friday, killing at least 65 people and injuring an additional 200, officials said.

Survivors described a night of screaming and chaos after the blast and said it took rescuers more than three hours to reach the scene. The blue passenger train and the red cargo train were knotted together in mangled metal along a rural stretch of track near the small town of

Sardiha, about 90 miles (150 kilometers) west of Calcutta.

Nearly 10 hours after the blast, railway police and paramilitary soldiers were using blowtorches and cables to try to reach at least a dozen passengers still trapped in the wreckage, said A.P. Mishra, general manager of the railway system in that area.

Sher Ali, a 25-year-old Mumbai factory worker, was traveling with his wife, two children and his brother's family when they were jerked awake by a loud thud. A mo-

ment later, he said, their car was tossed from the track.

"My sister-in-law was crushed when the coach overturned. We saw her dying, but we couldn't do anything to help her," said Ali, who had cuts to his head and arms. The rest of the family survived, though a ten-year-old nephew had been badly injured and had been hospitalized.

He was unable to go to the hospital, though, because all his money was in his luggage inside the wreckage and he was afraid it would be stolen unless he kept watch.

Australia to take Japan to court over whaling

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia announced Friday it will take Japan to the International Court of Justice to argue that its annual Antarctic whale kill violates international obligations, in a major escalation of the Australian campaign against the hunt.

The decision to take legal action against an important trading partner underlines the government's "commitment to bring

to an end Japan's program of so-called scientific whaling" in the southern seas, the government said in a statement.

Japan harpoons hundreds of whales each year despite an international ban on commercial whaling, arguing that it is conducting scientific research allowed by the International Whaling Commission.

The Australian government has said the hunt is in breach of

international obligations, but has declined to release any details of how it will argue its case before the court in The Hague.

Japan's Foreign Ministry said it was regrettable that Australia was bringing the issue before the court while negotiations continue within the IWC on a proposal that would effectively allow commercial whaling for the first time in 25 years.

ASIAN BRIEFS

SKorean, Chinese leaders meet amid NKorea tension

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea's neighbors ramped up efforts to take Pyongyang to the U.N. Security Council for sinking a South Korean warship, with South Korea's president seeking China's support during a summit Friday. China's backing would be key to any bid to condemn or sanction North Korea for the March 26 torpedo attack that killed 46 South Korean sailors. Beijing, a veto-wielding permanent Security Council member, so far has refrained from committing to Security Council action against Pyongyang, its neighbor and traditional ally. South Korean President Lee Myung-bak will lay out the case against North Korea during bilateral talks with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, a South Korean government official said, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with department policy.

Another suspect revealed in Times Square bomb case

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A Pakistani official says another man has been detained in connection with the main suspect in the Times Square attempted car bombing. The latest suspect to be

questioned is a Pakistani named Humbal Akhtar. The official requested anonymity because he works for Pakistani intelligence and is not allowed to comment on the record. He gave no other details about Akhtar. The primary suspect, Pakistani-American Faisal Shahzad, is being held in the United States. Intelligence officials have said around 11 people have been detained in the case in Pakistan.

Thai troops step up watch on Red Shirts in north

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai military and police increased their surveillance Friday of people in the country's north suspected to be allied with protesters who paralyzed Bangkok with demonstrations that led to violence, fearing further outbreaks in the provinces. Intelligence officials have information suggesting protesters have moved underground and could be planning violent retaliation in their strongholds, which are in the north and northeast of the country, said assistant army spokeswoman Lt. Siriya Khueng-sirikul. Siriya said the army is confident it can stop any outbreaks of renewed violence, and that the increased military watch was a precautionary measure.

World

Israeli commandos to block Gaza activists

ASHDOD, Israel (AP)—Israel on Thursday unveiled a massive makeshift detention center in the country's main southern port and announced the end of days of intense naval maneuvers, vowing to stop a flotilla of hundreds of pro-Palestinian activists trying to break a 3-year blockade of the Gaza Strip this weekend.

Military authorities said that masked naval commandos would greet the eight ships deep out at sea, escort the vessels to port and give each of the activists a stark choice: leave the country or go to jail.

But the tough response threatened to backfire by breathing new life into the activists' mission and drawing new attention to the oft-criticized blockade of Gaza.

"We know that we are sailing for a good cause," said Dror Feiler, 68, an Israeli-born Swedish activist who was on board a cargo ship headed from Greece

to Gaza. "If the Israelis want us to pay a price, we will pay a price, but we will come again and again."

Some 750 activists, including a Nobel peace laureate and former U.S. congresswoman, have set sail for the Gaza coast in recent days, carrying 10,000 tons of humanitarian supplies. They are expected to reach the Israeli coast on Saturday.

The volunteers say they are bringing desperately needed materials to the area, which has been blockaded by Israel and Egypt since Hamas militants violently took control in June 2007.

Israel, which considers Hamas a terrorist group, says the blockade is needed to prevent the Islamic militants from developing weapons. It has condemned the flotilla as a publicity stunt, insisting there is no humanitarian crisis in Gaza and offering to deliver the aid through official channels.

Nuke treaty session hunts for Mideast compromise

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—In closed-door huddles extending into Thursday night, diplomats at a nuclear treaty conference sought to break a deadlock between the Arabs and Israel's allies over a plan to turn the Middle East into a nuclear weapons-free zone.

A deal would likely clear the way for a broader consensus agreement Friday on doing more to check the spread of nuclear arms worldwide, successfully ending a month-long, 189-nation conference to review and strengthen the 40-year-old Nuclear Nonpro-

liferation Treaty (NPT).

A draft final declaration would have the twice-a-decade treaty review session call for the convening of a conference in 2012 "on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction."

This Arab idea of a WMD-free zone, meant to pressure Israel to give up its undeclared nuclear arsenal, was endorsed by the 1995 NPT conference but never acted on.

Israel has long said a full Arab-Israeli peace must precede such weapons bans.

Jamaica: 73 killed in hunt for alleged drug lord

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Jamaican security forces kicked down doors and arrested dozens of people in a bullet-pocked slum Thursday, and said the death toll from four days of fighting sparked by the search for a reputed drug lord has risen to 73.

The target of the manhunt, Christopher "Dudus" Coke, was nowhere to be found. He is sought by the United States on drug and arms trafficking charges, and the U.S. Justice Department calls him one of the world's most dangerous drug kingpins.

"We are still searching for Mr. Coke," Deputy Police Chief Glenmore Hinds said. "Certainly we can't disclose where we are looking."

He said Coke's offices were found in the heart of the Tivoli Gardens slum, but would not say what authorities found there.

Hinds said police and soldiers had found 73 "civilian" bodies, three of which might not have been killed in incidents related to the raid. He said three security officers were also killed in battles with gunmen loyal to Coke, who had nine months to prepare for an escape while Jamaica's prime minister wavered over U.S. demands for his extradition.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexican port captain jailed for alleged drug ties

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican marines have arrested the captain of a major Pacific coast port that has become a hot spot for the smuggling of methamphetamine precursor chemicals, accusing him of drug trafficking ties. Manzanillo port Captain Jorge Arturo Castaneda was the second top official to be arrested for alleged drug links this week. On Tuesday, federal police arrested Cancun Mayor Gregorio Sanchez for allegedly protecting two violent drug cartels. The Mexican Navy said Castaneda was arrested Wednesday in a joint operation with the organized crime unit of the federal Attorney General's Office. The statement said he was suspected of ties to organized crime but gave no details.

Health group: Donor cuts hurting Africa AIDS fight

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Doctors are being forced to turn away people with HIV/AIDS—meaning they will fall ill and almost certainly die—in eight African countries as donors cut funding amid the global economic meltdown, an

aid group said Thursday. Medecins Sans Frontieres, or Doctors Without Borders, called on rich countries to fulfill their obligations to poorer nations, saying the funding cuts threaten to unravel years of progress on the continent hardest hit by AIDS. The MSF study looked at AIDS programs in Congo, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe, and found the effects of funding cuts widespread.

Volcanic ash shuts down Guatemala City airport

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)—Authorities closed Guatemala's international airport Thursday after the nearby Pacaya volcano showered as much as 3 inches (8 centimeters) of ash over parts of the city. La Aurora airport would be closed at least until noon Friday, and possibly longer, said Angel Perez, a spokesman for the Central American country's Civil Aeronautics Office. The volcano is about 15 miles (25 kilometers) south of the Guatemalan capital. Two to three inches of ash accumulated on streets in some southern parts of the city, and officials imposed limits on trucks and motorcycles to help speed up traffic slowed by the ash.

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, May 29, 2010

Will Noynoy do a Cory on overseas labor export?

By JEREMIAH M. OPINIANO
OFW JOURNALISM CONSORTIUM

MANILA — Is Benigno Simon “Noynoy” Aquino III his mother’s son when it comes to overseas labor export?

Aquino, set to become the 15th Philippine president, may opt to follow-through with his mother’s institutionalization of the economy’s resilient force: overseas Filipino workers.

Under his mother, the late President Corazon Aquino, government hand in the deployment of OFWs was subsumed under one agency, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA). Overseeing Filipinos’ lot in host countries, on the other hand, was cauterized from the Department of Foreign Affairs and appended to another unit, the Overseas Workers’ Welfare Administration.

“Noynoy,” like his mother, should have a direct hand in labor migration, said Tomas Achacoso, POEA administrator under Mrs. Aquino.

Achacoso said having a “direct hand” involves not only improving the system of informing prospective overseas Filipinos of migration’s risks but also in shaping policy issues focused on labor migration and national development.

“The success of labor migration [in the Philippines] has distracted policy-makers from the original temporary role of the program,” the former POEA chief told the *OFW Journalism Consortium*.

The program of sending out Filipinos to work overseas under POEA predecessors Overseas Employment Development Board and National Seamen’s Board was used by then-President Ferdinand Marcos to beef up the country’s dollar reserves amid runaway unemployment.

With foreign investors cashing out of the Philippines under Mrs. Aquino’s time and with a foreign debt, money from OFWs propped up a cash-strapped People Power-born government beginning 1986.

Economists also credited money from OFWs, now nearly 10 percent of the country’s population, for having arrested the downward spiral of the economy during the 1997 Asian financial crisis and the collapse of the global financial system a decade later.

“Labor migration as the solution to the Philippines’ economic problem is erroneous, and addresses only one aspect of the [domestic employment] problem,” Achacoso said of government’s overseas employment framework.

Fungible

Economist Alvin Ang notes that for a long time, overseas work and remittances mitigated Philippine economic problems such as a feeble fiscal position and lack of jobs.

But since the word mitigation is “fungible,” which in economics means something can be substituted into a resource; remittances from Filipinos abroad “should not just be band aid.”

Ang agrees with Achacoso that the six years under the Aquino administration beginning June is crucial.

Ang echoes his theory of “diasporic dividend”—“net of net” benefit from the country’s migration phenomenon: Now is the time for a Philippine

government to explicitly encourage overseas Filipinos to invest in their hometowns.

He says by sending clear signals to local government units, this could happen.

“National government may set the policy environment

about luring remittances for development, but many local governments are not minding this potential resource—thus the policy disconnect,” Ang told the *OFW Journalism Consortium*.

Remittances are sterilized into merely circulating the financial system and going to consumption, Ang explained, especially since these are money of individual migrant workers and their families.

Thus, while the impact of remittances on Philippine development is macro, the vehicle



President-apparent Sen. Benigno “Noynoy” Aquino III talks to the media following his meeting with Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Makoto Katsura, unseen, at his residence at Manila’s Quezon city Thursday, May 27, 2010, in the Philippines. Aquino has yet to be formally proclaimed following the May 10 presidential elections.

Overseas Filipinos’ remittances and their growth rates, in host countries where Filipinos over-US\$10 million both in 2008 and 2009

Country	2008 (in US\$ thousands)	2009 (in US\$ thousands)	Growth rate (2009 vs. 2008)
1. Denmark	29,744	65,633	120.66
2. Norway	185,619	352,957	90.15
3. Netherlands	78,110	146,503	87.56
4. Belgium	12,663	23,737	87.45
5. Greece	116,736	200,342	71.62
6. Sweden	25,904	39,887	53.98
7. Qatar	122,912	184,574	50.17
8. Canada	1,308,692	1,900,963	45.26
9. Germany	304,644	433,488	42.29
10. Australia	129,453	181,437	40.16
11. Japan	575,181	773,561	34.49
12. Singapore	523,951	649,943	24.05
13. Republic of Korea	81,642	97,035	18.85
14. Switzerland	72,351	83,056	14.80
15. United Kingdom	776,354	859,612	10.72
16. Malaysia	86,030	80,377	7.03
17. Saudi Arabia	1,387,120	1,470,571	6.02
18. Israel	36,388	38,537	5.91
19. Tunisia	10,516	11,091	5.47
20. Bahrain	159,466	166,122	4.22
21. United Arab Emirates	621,232	644,822	3.80
22. Spain	79,566	81,805	2.81
23. Ireland	34,895	33,505	-3.98
24. United States of America	7,825,607	7,323,661	-6.41
25. Guam	70,026	64,406	-8.03
26. Austria	38,519	32,466	-15.71
27. Kuwait	125,093	104,634	-16.36
28. Hong Kong	406,134	339,552	-16.39
29. Italy	678,539	521,297	-23.17
30. Taiwan	194,071	91,779	-52.71

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (2010); packaged by the OFW Journalism Consortium

to lure these for development is micro, Ang said.

“That way, and if the local government is involved, then you can target development,” Ang adds.

The policy should be explicit

and leave no room for doubt in the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan.

Ang said that government should actively instill a consciousness among prospective Filipino workers that their mi-

not just the pay. That way, information on the country where the worker will migrate to would be clearly disseminated.”

Achacoso, for his part, recommends government to address the concerns of labor migration from a “holistic standpoint” by explaining “how labor migration affects national development.”

Given the Philippines’ respectable global stature as regards labor migration, Achacoso said the DFA “should be taught about the principles and mechanics of labor migration, so that they can better argue with host countries about adjustments to make the life of migrants much easier.”

He also hopes the Philippines will request host countries for some compensating payment in return for the skilled workers lost here and hired abroad, such as nurses and doctors.

Achacoso also hopes no less than the President of the Republic sustains “a continuing interest in policy issues that affect

EXCHANGE RATES	
DOLLAR	PESO
\$1.00	= P46.0

gration is only temporary; that they do not merely return here to retire after a long overseas stint, but “to work” and remain productive for themselves and for the economy.

Aquino’s campaign platform is to boost foreign investment, pour more resources to education, and generate more jobs locally through agriculture, business process outsourcing, infrastructure, manufacturing, logistics, mining, and tourism.

“If there is no production here, the Philippines will not have any productivity,” Ang said.

“Or else, this country will remain consumption driven—a situation that not even a thousand Noynoy can remedy.”

Steps

As a first step, Ang proposes an overhaul of government’s information campaign on migration.

The government’s current pre-employment orientation seminar should be made optional while information should be specific to separately cater to high-skilled and low-skilled workers.

There should be “complete information disclosure of a destination country’s conditions,

labor migration, and intervenes every so often to shape and direct policies and programs.”

Again, though, these policies should not be merely about “consolidating the Philippines’ share of the [overseas job] market over which it has little real control”.

Something also is essential for the incoming president to do, Achacoso said: a better approach to address the lack of programs to create jobs domestically.

“Labor migration as the solution to the Philippines’ economic problem is erroneous, and addresses only one aspect of the [domestic employment] problem.”

Ang noted that the Aquino administration has the wherewithal to hit the diasporic dividend.

“He [Aquino] can help turn remittances into concrete investments.”

Preventing overseas movement of workers is unacceptable, yet the Philippine government should not rely on demand-driven job markets abroad to sustain the economy, Achacoso and Ang said.

Philippine economy grows 7.3 percent in Q1

By MICHELLE REMO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—This time, it is a welcome “midnight” performance.

The Philippine economy bounced back from an anemic performance in 2009, posting 7.3-percent growth in the first quarter of this year from 0.5 percent a year ago to beat most expectations.

“This is a glorious ending for the Arroyo administration and a good beginning for the incoming Aquino administration,” Romulo Virola, secretary general of the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), told reporters Thursday.

Dennis Arroyo, director for policy and planning at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), said that given the robust growth of the Philippine economy in the first quarter, the government would revise its growth target for the year, which was set at a conservative range of only between 2.6 and 3.6 percent.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is required by constitutional term limits to step down on June 30 after more than nine years in office. She is expected to be replaced by presumptive president-elect Benigno Aquino III.

Officials credited election spending, a sustained rise in remittances and improved business and consumer confidence—which resulted in increased spending for goods and

services—for the robust year-on-year growth of the gross domestic product (GDP).

GDP is the total value of the goods produced and services rendered within the economy in a given period.

The NSCB said the growth in the first three months was the fastest since the GDP registered an 8.3-percent expansion in the second quarter of 2007, also an election year.

Similarly, the country’s gross national product (GNP)—the value of goods produced and services rendered by Filipinos here and abroad—posted a higher-than-expected growth rate. It rose 9.5 percent in the first quarter, up from 3.3 percent in the same period last year.

“The improvement in the global economy, brighter economic outlook, increased business and consumer confidence, and election-related spending all contributed to the resurgence in economic activities,” said Augusto Santos, director general of NEDA.

At a press conference, Santos said these more than offset the adverse impact of the dry spell caused by El Niño on the agriculture sector, particularly the crops and the fishery sub-sectors.

The Philippines’ rebound from last year’s economic slowdown was consistent with projections that the global economy would recover after suffering from a recession last year due mainly to economic woes in the United States and Europe—two

of the biggest export markets and home to many overseas Filipino workers.

Better economic conditions offshore—attributed to stimulus spending by governments across the globe—helped sustain the rise in remittances, which normally fuel consumption by Filipino households. These likewise led to a rebound of the Philippines’ export sector.

Virola said at the press conference that economic growth in the first quarter was supported by the industry and services sectors, the growth rates of which outweighed the poor performance of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector.

Industry growth

Industry, which includes manufacturing, utilities, and mining and quarrying, grew 15.7 percent in the first quarter, reversing the 2.6-percent contraction in the same period last year.

This sector’s growth was led by manufacturing, which expanded 20.7 percent, a turnaround from the 7.6-percent decline last year.

Services, which include the continually booming business process outsourcing sub-sector, grew by 6.1 percent in the first quarter, accelerating from 1.9 percent a year ago.

Battered by the dry spell, the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector contracted by 2.5 percent in the first quarter, reversing the 2.1-percent growth in the same period last year.

Santos said the growth in the

first quarter helped create additional 1.73 million jobs.

9M OFWs

The World Bank said recently that economic growth over the past decade had not made a serious dent in tackling the dire poverty plaguing the country.

Remittances in the first three months amounted to \$4.3 billion, up 7 percent year-on-year. Santos said remittances helped increase domestic demand, which in turn boosted incomes of businesses.

The cash transfers from the roughly 9 million Filipinos working abroad are equivalent to nearly 10 percent of the Philippines’ economic output.

Contrary to economists’ forecasts, the remittances of Filipino overseas workers even increased at the height of the global financial crisis.

Like the Philippines, other developing Asian countries export to the West and so they benefited from higher export income with the recovery of economies of the United States and Europe.

During the first quarter, Singapore’s economy grew 15.5 percent; Thailand, 12 percent; Malaysia, 10.1 percent; Vietnam, 5.8 percent; Taiwan, 13.3 percent; China, 11.9 percent; Hong Kong, 8.2 percent; and, South Korea, 7.8 percent.

However, Arroyo said the government’s economic team would continue to monitor factors that could drag down growth of the economy.

Eurozone debts

Santos said these adverse factors included the debt problems of Greece and other countries in the Eurozone that are somehow dampening investor confidence not only in Europe but also in emerging Asian economies.

Santos said the possibility of a La Niña in the second half could further drag down the

performance of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector.

To ensure that the economy’s first quarter performance is sustained, the government has to increase spending on infrastructure, social services and education, he said.

To do so, the government should enhance tax collection, Santos said. *With a report from Agence France-Presse*

Filipinos eye Australia’s new Skilled Occupation List

By JUN BURGOS
INQUIRER.NET

MANILA, Philippines

Thousands of Filipinos, among other global citizens aspiring for work and possible residence in Australia, are keenly monitoring developments in that country’s policies and programs on labor and migration.

This, as Australia’s Immigration Minister Chris Evans announced on 17 May 2010 the release of the new Skilled Occupation List (SOL), a summary of occupations currently acceptable for migration to the country.

Regularly updated to reflect changes in the local labor market and actual occupation demands, the SOL is required for applicants for Australia’s General Skilled Migration (GSM) program.

The SOL-prescribed occupations are divided into separate categories such as professionals, managers, traders etc.; there are points allocated to each profession which could be used for migration assessment purposes.

Due to be implemented starting 1 July 2010, the new SOL trims the accepted occupations

from the previous 400 down to 181, after excluding cooking, hairdressing, and community welfare, which had become popular careers after being regarded as easy pathways to permanent residence in the country, but are not actually in demand in the current Australian economy.

According to Evans, the reform is intended to result in new immigrants who better meet the needs of the Australian economy and the actual needs of their country for skilled manpower.

The change is hailed as a major policy move in Australia’s overall workforce development strategy developed by the independent body, Skills Australia, to ensure “a labor market demand-driven skilled migration program.”

Under the new scheme, applicants must thus have higher-level skills.

Generally, fewer people are expected to meet the stricter requirements posed by the new SOL, but manpower and immigration experts believe that many Filipinos have the required higher-level skills and could thus be eligible for the work-and-residence opportunity being offered by Australia.

President, VP to be proclaimed before June 30—Enrile

By CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—With the canvassing of votes for president and vice president off to a slow start, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile has assured the public that Congress would proclaim the top two leaders of the land days before the June 30 deadline.

“Whatever happens, we will have to proclaim a president or vice president...more days before that [June 30 deadline],” Enrile said over dzMM radio.

Enrile said he would “not take the chance” of proclaiming the new president or vice president “on the very day of June 30” because he feared the turmoil such delay could trigger.

He said it was the duty of Congress “to preserve the only country we have.”

The joint canvassing committee started to consolidate vote tallies for president and vice president on Thursday, or two



Co-Chairman, Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, right, looks, as the senate secretary general shows the first ballots from Laos to be opened by the National Board of Canvassers at the House of Representatives in Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines on Thursday May 27, 2010.

days after it convened.

The Constitution calls for the installation of an incoming president and vice president at noon of June 30.

Enrile said that the joint canvassing committee would continue on Friday to count certificates of canvass that were manually prepared. He said they would be counting the votes that had electronically transmitted CoCS by “next week.”

There are 172 such CoCs from overseas and one manually prepared CoC consolidating local absentee votes. The committee put off canvassing of the bulk of election results including votes cast in Hong Kong and Singapore, where precinct count optical scanners were used, due to questions on the reliability, accuracy and security of the vote count.

The Senate and the House of Representatives, sitting as a national board of canvassers, will be canvassing a total of 278 CoCs to proclaim the next president and vice president on or before June 30, the end of the term of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

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ROAD SAFETY

Hollywood actress Michelle Yeoh poses with helmet-wearing school children during her visit to the Department of Education Training Center at suburban Pasig city, east of Manila, Philippines Wednesday May 26, 2010 to promote road safety among Filipino motorists. Yeoh on Wednesday brought her global campaign for road safety to the Asia-Pacific region, where she warned that deaths and injuries from accidents were reaching epidemic levels.

Crisis pushed more Pinoys abroad—analyst

By JEREMIAH M. OPINIANO
OFW JOURNALISM CONSORTIUM

PASIG CITY—Crisis not only brings out the best in people; in the Philippines's case, it brought out the best people and in droves.

So claims Maruja M.B. Asis of the Scalabrini Migration Center.

At a policy conference organized by the SMC here, Asis said there's a visible volume of OFWs across all occupational groupings, including production workers, service workers (including domestic workers) and professional and technical workers (the top three occupational groupings of OFWs in 2008).

Hence, she said the year-long increase of migrant worker deployment in 2009 "isn't surprising".

Last year, economists chewed on their nails as a financial fiasco in the United States housing industry in 2008 cascaded over the real sector and burned markets trading with the world's largest economy.

Some economists like Alvin Ang of the University of Santo Tomas said remittances from overseas Filipino workers in host countries like the US would either drop or remain flat because of the crisis.

Remittances data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (see Table 1) revealed seven host countries of overseas Filipinos, including the US, Hong Kong, Italy, and Taiwan, achieved negative growth rates for remittances.

Philippine militants abduct 3 farm workers

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —The military says suspected al-Qaida-linked militants have abducted three rubber farm workers in the southern Philippines, apparently to divert troops' attention.

Rear Adm. Alex Pama says initial information indicates 20 Abu Sayyaf members led by Furuji Indama, a senior commander, seized the victims Thursday from a passenger minibus in Basilan island's Libog village.

Pama, a military task force commander, says the abduction probably was an attempt at diversion after troops raided an Abu Sayyaf camp two weeks ago, killing a militant and capturing 14 others.

The Abu Sayyaf is a small but violent group suspected of having received training and funds from al-Qaida. The U.S. has blacklisted it as a terrorist group for deadly bombings, kidnappings and beheadings.

Remittance volume from the US, the epicenter of the global crisis, dropped 6.41 percent while colony Guam dipped 8.03 percent. From Kuwait, remittances plunged 16.36 percent; Hong Kong 16.39 percent; and Italy 23.17 percent. Taiwan posted a staggering 52.71-percent drop in remittance volume.

By volume of money, remittances from the US were less by US\$501.946 million. Filipinos from Canada made up for the US shortfall by US\$90.325 million.

Still, overall remittances from Filipinos abroad in 2009, totaling US\$17.348 billion, were more than the 2008 volume (US\$16.426 billion) by 5.61 percent.

That year-on-year remittance growth rate, however, was lower than the 13.68 percent achieved in 2008.

But Ang also noted the diversification of the OFW workforce has been a mitigating factor to the crisis' impact on remittances.

Most domestic workers "are virtually shielded from the crisis," he said in a paper on remittances and household behavior released earlier this year by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Ang and co-authors Shikha Jha of India and Guntur Sugiyarto of Indonesia said this is because most employers of domestic workers "have gotten used to a lifestyle with domestic help" and "...the pay of these workers is relatively affordable despite the crisis."

This phenomenon was also

seen during the 1997 Asian financial crisis when the demand for service workers "remained the same."

Asis said the global economic crisis "provided an additional push" for the Philippines to intensify the deployment of contract workers for overseas job markets.

Deployment data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) reveal that deployed newly-hired and re-hired OFWs reached 1,422,586 in 2009, a 15.1 percent growth rate from 2008 figures numbering to 1,236,013.

Two years after the Asian crisis, the Philippines had 831,643 land- and sea-based OFWs in 1998 and 837,020 in 1999.

Year 1998-2009 figures of the annual deployment of newly-hired and re-hired migrant workers by the POEA showed that 2009 OFW deployment flows to Saudi Arabia (291,419), UAE (196,815), Kuwait (45,900), Bahrain (15,001), and Singapore (54,421) were 12-year record highs.

And while Hong Kong's OFWs sent less last year, POEA data reveal that the 2009 deployment of OFWs to Hong Kong (100,142) was 27.8 percent more than the 78,345 deployed in 2008.

The country also deployed more seafarers last year at 330,424, an all-time record-high.

Crisis or no crisis, whether it comes within or outside of the Philippines, it is "migration as usual" for the Philippines, Asis said.

Filipino sailors sent home \$888M in 1Q, up 11 pct.

» But Greek debt crisis worries labor center

MANILA, Philippines—Filipino sailors on foreign ocean-going vessels wired home a total of \$888.949 million in the first quarter, up 11.04 percent or \$88.414 million from the \$800.535 million they remitted over the same three-month period in 2009, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) said over the weekend.

In a news release, TUCP secretary general and former Senator Ernesto Herrera said the 11.04 percent growth in the money sent home by sailors was nearly double the 5.96-percent increase in the cash remitted by land-based migrant Filipino workers in the first quarter.

"We remain bullish overall about the potential growth in

remittances from Filipino sailors in the months ahead," said Herrera, former chairman of the Senate committee on labor, employment and human resources development.

"However, we are also deeply worried about Greece's lingering debt crisis, which could depress economic conditions as well as shipping activity in Europe," added Herrera, whose labor center includes the Philippine Seafarers' Union.

Of the 10 biggest sources of remittances from Filipino sailors, six are European countries, Herrera pointed out.

The top 10 sources of Filipino sailors' remittances are the United States, Japan, Norway, Germany, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Greece, the Netherlands, Hong Kong, and Cyprus, according to Herrera.

Remittances from Filipino sailors based in Greece were

still up 18 percent in the first quarter to \$34.7 million versus \$29.3 million a year ago.

However, Herrera also noted that remittances from Filipino sailors based in Norway, the Netherlands, Cyprus, Denmark, Ireland, and Sweden were actually down an average of 20.81 percent.

Last week, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported that total remittances from all migrant Filipino workers, whether based on land or at sea, reached \$4.339 billion in the first quarter, up 6.96 percent from \$4.057 billion over the same period in 2009.

In 2009, Filipino sailors sent home a record \$3.4 billion, up \$366 million or 12.06 percent from \$3.034 billion in 2008.

Remittances from Filipino sailors have more than doubled since 2005, when they sent home only \$1.669 billion. (*INQUIRER.net*)

TAKE CHARGE

Money advice for new graduates

INQUIRER.net

Q: I'm so excited! I'm all set to graduate this March from college and I'm looking forward to finally making my own money! I have a job waiting for me and although it's a very junior position, I know it will just be the start of a good stable career. I want to do so many things, like save up for a trip abroad, a new car, and maybe my own condo unit someday. Can you please give me tips on how I can handle my income well?—Lulu

A: You are blessed, Lulu, for having finished college and with a job waiting right after graduation, and for that we send you our heartfelt congratulations!

You seem to be going in the right direction, because not only have you asked us for financial advice this early, you have also identified your financial goals and have a positive mindset. We are sharing the financial tips below on how fresh graduates like you can handle your earnings well.

1. Define your financial goals. What do you want to have in the future? Write down your goals and a general timetable so you can remind yourself of your goals later on. Some good goals are: having a car in three years' time, enrolling in graduate school in five years' time, establishing an emergency fund within a year. By having a timetable, your goals become more realistic and attainable.

2. Look for a job that will use your skills, give you room for growth, and will give you steady income enough to meet your needs and allow you to save. The job market is very competitive but that does not mean that you should grab the first job opportunity that comes by. Weigh the pros and cons of each job offer and choose wisely. If the job offer comes with additional benefits such as car plan, subsidy for further studies, and profit-sharing, that's even better.

3. Once you have a firm job offer, draft a budget to help you plan your monthly spending. With a new job, you will have a steady income coming in. Start by saving first (see next item below), then allot amounts for regular expenses such as food, transportation, clothing,

and others. Live within your means.

4. Open a separate bank account for savings, different from your payroll account. This will be for your savings. Ideally, you should deposit money here regularly and make the money grow for future consumption. Ideally, too, you should take out the money meant for your savings (at least 10 percent of your income) as soon as you get your pay, so you won't be tempted to spend all of your income.

5. Save up for an emergency fund. Make this your priority for saving. Build up a fund equal to three to six months' worth of your expenses so that if anything happens-you lose your job or get sick-you can have a fund to dip into to help you in your day-to-day expenses. Don't touch this fund unless there's an emergency (thus the name). You can put this fund in a time deposit or money market account for easy access.

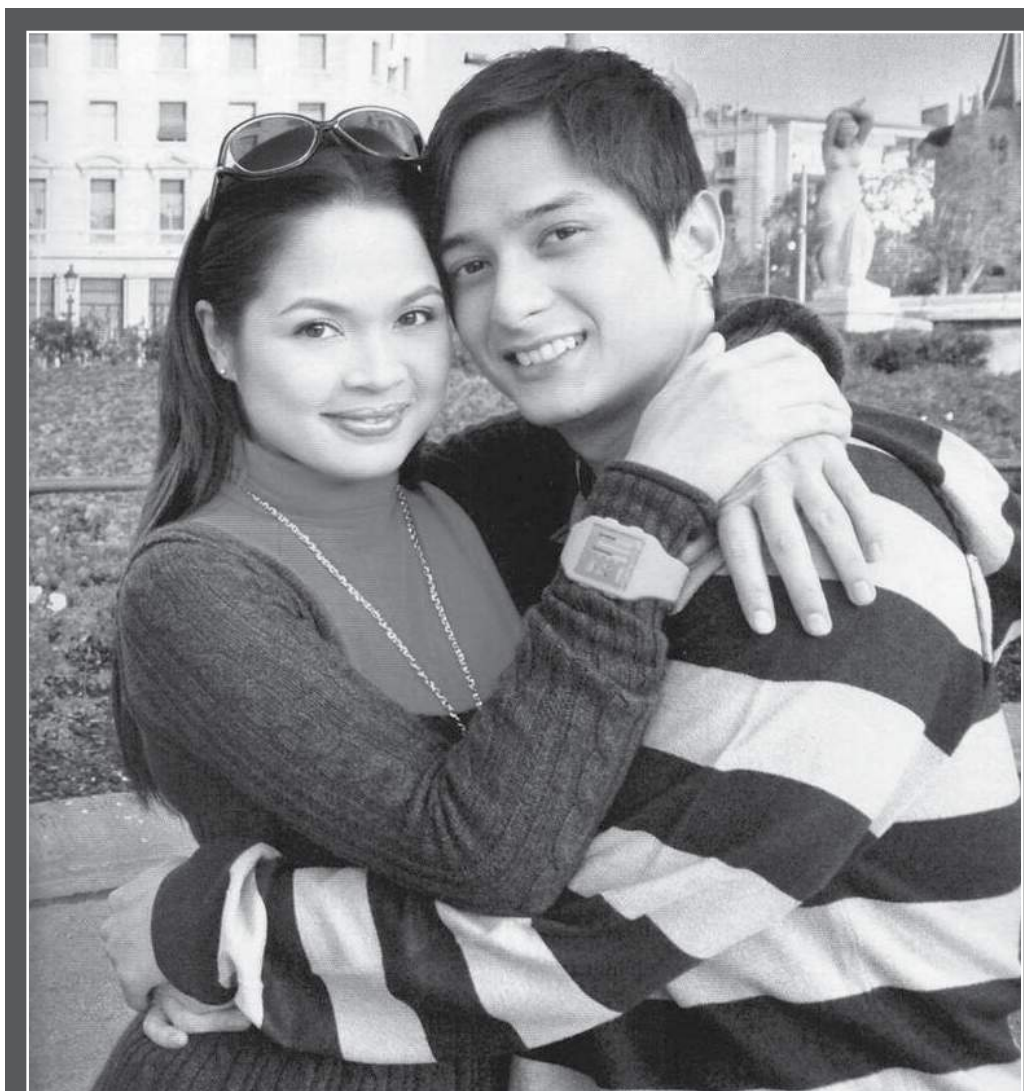
6. Once you have saved up enough money for an emergency fund, tackle your other savings goals. Save for that car or dream home in the future. Don't forget to start saving for a retirement fund because the earlier you do it, the better as compound interest will make your money earn even more without you doing anything. To give your savings a kick (in terms of growth), look into investing them in instruments or accounts that may give you more interest or yield than what a savings account may offer. Talk to your bank for more details.

7. Get insurance coverage. You'll never know what's going to happen, but it pays to be prepared always. Take out a life insurance policy if you have dependents. Buying life insurance while you are young also means paying for lower premiums. If your company does not give free health insurance, make sure you get one for yourself. With health care costs escalating and more so as you get older, it will do you good to have some form of coverage in place.

8. Read up on financial matters. Sharpen your financial IQ by reading more about personal finance and attending personal finance seminars. You can learn from experts to help you stay on the right track financially.

Good luck and we hope all your financial dreams come true.

Maharlika – PinoyStyle



A BOY FOR JUDAY-RYAN

Judy Ann Santos and Ryan Agoncillo are having a boy. This was confirmed by a show biz friend of theirs, who also said they went shopping for the baby's nursery during a recent US vacation, buying blue and green stuff. Juday is four months pregnant. File photo above shows the happy couple during a visit to Barcelona, Spain. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

A lock of love

By **MARINEL CRUZ**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines — Sarah Geronimo has donated a lock of hair to charity.

Sarah said she herself cut her long tresses and gave her “gift” for cancer patients to hair stylist Jing Monis, who sent it to the U.S.-based organization, Locks of Love.

According to the website www.locksoflove.org, the organization gives hairpieces to needy children suffering from hair loss due to long-term medication, “to help restore their confidence.”

During a political gathering, Sarah denied rumors that the gesture was the result of frustration over her “zero” love life. She jested, “Well, I wanted a hair makeover.”

She gamely answered questions about long-time suitor Rayver Cruz and John Lloyd Cruz, her leading man in two hit movies, and pregnant Judy Ann Santos, her costar in Wenn Deramas’ “Hating Kapatid.”

Sarah said Juday never complains, but has limited work to two days a week and set a cut-off time. “We all get to go home early,” Sarah noted, smiling.



Sarah Geronimo has donated a lock of hair to charity.

She said she was “shocked” when she learned about the romance between John Lloyd and Shaina Magdayao. “It can no longer be denied. People see, and they talk. I just hope the public will respect [their privacy].”

Sarah would not confirm that newcomer Matteo Guidicelli is

courting her, only that they’re friends. “Billy (Crawford) introduced him to me in Cebu. It’s not true that Matteo has been sending me flowers. But he’s good looking.”

About Rayver, she would only say, “If we’re meant for each other, it will happen.”

Mariel ‘so kilig’ with Robin

By **DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—I teased Mariel Rodriguez that she and Robin Padilla look good together in “Wowowee.” If and when he courts her, would she give in?

“Kakahiya naman to assume that he will court me,” Mariel said, laughing. “Binoe is so nakakakilig to be with. Super nakaka-inspire siyang kasama.”

Doesn’t her BF Zanjoe Marudo get jealous of her budding friendship and perfect chemistry with Binoe?

“Zanjoe doesn’t watch naman ata. I don’t know if he’s nagse-selos. I don’t think so naman,” she surmised.

Hmmm ... It seems like Mariel’s eyes twinkle more when she talks about Binoe. Not too long ago, rumors were circulating that Mariel and Zanjoe were having problems in their relationship.

Meryll Soriano serves as her dad Willie Revillame’s official cheerleader now that he is embroiled in another controversy about switching channels.

“Wowowee” is my dad’s life. That’s why he gets so affected when people lambaste his show,” she said. “My main concern is his health. Dahil sa sobrang stress sa show, nagkaroon na siya ng iba’t-ibang ailments

... If it’s any consolation, now that he’s resting from his hosting chores, we will have more bonding time.”

Does her dad approve of her BF Joem Bascon? “Of course he does,” she replied. “As long as he sees me happy, that’s all that matters.”

How’s her dad’s love life? “Nothing serious,” she noted. “I told him not to remarry anymore because he’s really not the marrying type. He agreed.”

Polo Ravales has a new inspiration, Sasha, who has a striking resemblance to Say Alonzo.

“As much as possible I want to keep my love life private,” he said. “Natuto na ko sa mga previous relationships ko that turned into a show biz circus because everything was out in the open.”

Now Polo is hush-hush about all the mush.

I was intrigued by the message sent to me by one of my FB contacts. She was asking me if it’s true that Janno Gibbs will soon be a lolo. I texted Janno about it but at press time, he hasn’t replied. Is it a No, Janno?

Ethel Booba minced no words about her ex Alex Crisano when she was our guest in “Paparazzi.” “I can never ever forgive him,” she said. “Marami akong witness na siya ang nagnakaw

ng mga gamit ko worth about P3 million.”

Alex refuted her allegations and pleaded that she stop pestering him because he’s now happy with Joey Marquez’s daughter, JB, and their son Vinny.

“Wala akong galit kay JB. Kay Alex lang,” Ethel clarified. “Noong buntis si JB sa anak nila, naging kami ni Alex. So I should ask forgiveness from her.” But as far as Alex is concerned, it’s goodbye and good riddance!

Boy Abunda is a preferred speaker as he is a choice interviewer. I was more than flattered when Boy was asked about his top 10 favorite interviewees in an article about him some years ago, my name was included on his list.

The “Startalk” interview we had about my liaison dangereuse with Robin Padilla many controversies ago will forever be etched in my memory.

Recently, Boy was the most applauded speaker at the 3rd Philippine Life Insurance Congress where he talked about “10 Things About Me That Could Be About You.”

“Everyone has a story to tell ... Most of the time you don’t know what’s going to happen,” Boy said. “And this makes the experience of interviewing truly exciting. I can do prostitutes and prime ministers in the same breath ...”

CHEER FACTOR

So you’re watching ‘ASAP’ live?

By **EMMIE G. VELARDE**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

IT’S QUITE a trip, watching a star-studded variety show live, running into so many stars in person, no matter that you’ve seen them elsewhere or interacted with them previously.

Picture Sarah Geronimo in the farthest corner of the ladies room as you walk in, hair up in curlers and appraising her makeup in the mirror. She doesn’t see you, thank goodness; you’re such an admirer, it’s embarrassing.

Somehow you get introduced to Zsazsa Padilla, who’s in a rush but who manages a “Glad to meet you.” And she’s gone before you can say you’ve been to her house twice.

Vina Morales doesn’t remember you, either, but she flashes a split-second smile with a hasty “Sorry, gotta go.” That’s okay; you were seat-mates in a plane some years ago and chatted like pals for a full hour.

We’re just saying, you could literally bump into the stars as the show goes on—in this case, “ASAP” at ABS-CBN—and they wouldn’t notice. They have eyes, ears, and all other senses trained only on the next cue, the next production number.

Thumping hearts

As a member of the audience inside the studio, you surrender to the fan in you, completely. The thumping of hearts in there is almost audible,

it’s best for the music to be kept at an almost deafening level.

The very alert and determined ones get to “ambush” the stars for snapshots as they step down from the extended stage after every number. That is allowed, according to the floor directors. Speaking of whom ...

Before the show and during commercial breaks, the head floor director is lord of the breathless ring.



Head floor director Alex Magbanua gives the do’s and don’t’s.

“Do not move the chairs!” Alex Magbanua booms. “There is a reason we have aisles in here!”

Apparently, this tone of voice is the only one that works for the mob. Magbanua has special instructions for those within camera range. “If you are asked to dance, dance! When the overhead camera swings by, smile! You are not allowed to frown!”

“Kim,” the “audience warmer,” is less forceful but no less effective as he warns, “If you refuse to smile, you will look like me!”

Other aspects of the program experienced only by the live studio audience include seeing the stars use prompters for song lyrics and spiels; exchanging jokes with their idols off-cam; and watching enviously as some of the artists, like Piolo Pascual, sit on the edge of the stage to chat with the people in the first few rows.

Once the show is over, the celebrity cast members promptly cease to be preoccupied. Zsazsa and Vina look over their shoulders as they walk past you in the hallway ... and smile like they remember at last.

Maharlika – Opinyon

Implementation of federalization in the CNMI

Editor's Note: The following is the statement of Anthony M. Babauta, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas, delivered on May 18, 2010, before the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans And Wildlife Committee on Natural Resources regarding implementation of the immigration provisions in Public Law 110-229.

Chairwoman Bordallo and members of the Subcommittee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the implementation of the immigration provisions contained in Title VII of Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. Congress was very thoughtful in its enactment of the CNRA, which took years of deliberation. Ultimately, Congress took action in recognition of five fundamental problems with continuing CNMI control of immigration: lack of institutional capacity, national security, ineffective law enforcement against organized crime, an unsustainable economic model, and inadequate protection for alien workers.

Subtitle A of Title VII of the CNRA provides for the federal government to apply the immigration law of the United States in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Subtitle A, which became effective on Nov. 28, 2009, transferred border protection and security throughout the Marianas from the CNMI government to the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

DHS has established and staffed facilities at ports of entry and elsewhere in the CNMI, and is working to administer a five-year CNMI transitional foreign labor program, an investors' program, a Guam-CNMI visa waiver program, and other immigration responsibilities relating to the CNMI. While DHS has made great strides in its implementation of this reform, it has faced many difficulties as well.

On May 7, 2010, the GAO released a report, *DHS Should Conclude Negotiations and Finalize Regulations to Implement Federal Immigration Law*, chronicling the difficulties encountered by DHS in fully implementing Federal immigration. The GAO found that DHS faces operational challenges as well as challenges negotiating with the CNMI government. Primarily, the report found three key challenges: 1) the airport space provided to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) does not meet facility standards and CBP has not reached a long-term occupancy agreement with the CNMI for such space; 2) an agreement over detention space has not been completed between U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the CNMI; and 3) the

CNMI has not provided DHS with direct access to CNMI's immigration databases. The GAO report recommends DHS conclude necessary negotiations with the CNMI on these three issues. DHS has made great strides in moving forward and we fully join GAO in its recommendations that the remaining three areas of contention be resolved.

It is widely recognized that the transition to the Federal immigration system comes at a time when the CNMI is facing serious economic distress. This deepening economic crisis has triggered a growing fiscal crisis. Due to changes in worldwide trade in textiles, Saipan's last remaining garment factory ceased operation in March of 2009. The CNMI's only other major industry, tourism, is also experiencing troubling declines. Due to airline industry cutbacks and route closures, tourist numbers have fallen and will not recover if arrival capacity continues to decline.

The CNMI remains a two-tier economy where the private sector is overly reliant on foreign employees and the indigenous population is overly reliant on the public sector for employment. Because of the unique economic structure of the CNMI and the fact that approximately 50 percent of employees in the CNMI are foreign, private sector wages remain low and unattractive to U.S. citizen workers. Use of guest workers to fill virtually all private sector jobs—unskilled, skilled, and even professional jobs—results in emigration by many U.S. citizens who cannot find increasingly scarce government work. However, the growth of the Commonwealth will require the increased employment of U.S. citizens.

In addition, the CNMI government has made policy and legislative decisions that have led to much uncertainty for the community. For instance, the CNMI government issued umbrella permits to workers prior to the transition date (Nov. 28, 2009), which it now states it has the power to revoke. While federal agencies working with the CNMI to implement the CNRA have applauded the CNMI for issuing umbrella permits authorizing alien workers to remain and be employed in the CNMI for the first two years of the transition period, and have fully recognized the validity of those permits during the time, the insistence of the CNMI government that the CNRA does not preempt its ability to continue to regulate alien employment is fostering a climate of confusion and disarray among workers and the business community.

Despite the best efforts of DHS (as well as DOI and DOL) to educate the community, workers, and businesses, the CNMI con-

tinues to administer the same procedures regarding employment of aliens as were required prior to the effective date of the CNRA, including issuing administrative decisions purporting to revoke or modify alien work authorization in the CNMI. The CNMI Office of the Governor and Department of Labor have issued guidance providing contradictory and incorrect information to the public, and advising employers in the CNMI that as long as they comply with local law they are not subject to an important Federal civil rights law enforced by the U.S. Department of Justice that the CNRA extended to the CNMI.

In addition, through Public Law 17-1, the CNMI has mandated that most lawfully present aliens, whether admitted by the CNMI pre-Nov. 28, 2009 or subsequently by DHS, as well as unlawfully present aliens, must register with the CNMI Department of Labor or face jail time, a fine, or both. One result has been a rise in service providers promising that, for a fee, an alien can receive CNMI authorization to work and remain in the CNMI. Some of these service providers have obtained such authorization from the CNMI even though under the CNRA the CNMI is no longer in control of immigration and alien employment in the CNMI.

Further, aliens who possess long-term business permits, alien investors, and corporations with alien shareholders are being denied business license renewals until CNMI entry permits are renewed by the CNMI. Many do not want to risk the loss of business revenue to fight the CNMI and simply comply at a cost of \$1,000 per entry permit.

Report on the alien worker population in the CNMI

When originally introduced in the Congress, the CNMI immigration legislation included a provision granting long-term foreign workers a nonimmigrant status that would allow them to continue living and working in the United States jurisdictions much like citizens of the freely associated states. The enacted version of the CNRA, however, did not resolve the immigration status of long-term workers in the CNMI. Instead, it called for a report and recommendations on the status of long-term foreign workers by the Secretary of the Interior (in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and Governor of the CNMI), by May 8, 2010.

Specifically, the report was to include:

- the number of aliens residing in the CNMI,
- their legal status,
- the length of time each alien has been residing in the CNMI,
- the CNMI economy's need for foreign workers, and
- recommendations, if deemed appropriate, whether or not legal foreign workers in the CNMI on May 8, 2008, should be able to apply for long-term status under United States law.

The report was submitted to the Congress on April 30, 2010. In addition, I personally presented the report to the Governor's office [on] Saipan while the Ombudsman held listening sessions with stakeholders on the same day.

In the report, the Department recommends, consistent with the goals of comprehensive immigration reform, that the Congress consider permitting alien workers who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for a minimum period of five years to apply for long-term status under the immigration and nationality laws of the United States.

Statuses under the INA that could be considered include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- (1) alien workers could be conferred United States citizenship by Act of Congress;
- (2) alien workers could be conferred permanent resident status leading to U.S. citizenship (per the normal provisions of the INA relating to naturalization), with the five-year minimum residence spent anywhere in the United States or its territories; or
- (3) alien workers could be conferred permanent resident status leading to U.S. citizenship, with the five-year minimum residence spent in the CNMI.

Additionally, under U.S. immigration law, special status is provided to aliens who are citizens of the freely associated states. Following this model,

- (1) alien workers could be granted a nonimmigrant status like that negotiated for citizens of the freely associated states, whereby such persons may live and work in the United States and its territories; or
- (2) alien workers could be granted a nonimmigrant status like that negotiated for citizens of the freely associated states, whereby such persons may live and work in the CNMI only.

Precedent for Congress granting long-term status to nonimmigrant workers residing in a U.S. territory was set by Public Law 97-271 (1982) when the Congress, citing its special responsibility and authority with respect to territories and the establishment of immigration policy, granted the opportunity to apply for U.S. permanent residence to alien workers in the U.S. Virgin Islands with more than seven years continuous residence. Public Law 97-271 was intro-

By **ANTHONY M. BABAUTA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Anthony Marion Babauta is the Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs in the Department of the Interior.



duced and championed by the former chairman of the Subcommittee on Insular and International Affairs, Ron de Lugo of the USVI.

In P.L. 97-271, Congress found that "in order to eliminate the uncertainty and insecurity of aliens who legally entered the Virgin Islands of the United States as nonimmigrants for employment under the temporary alien labor program, ha[d] continued to reside in the Virgin Islands for long periods (some for as long as 20 years), and have contributed to the economic, social, and cultural development of the Virgin Islands and ha[d] become an integral part of the society of the Virgin Islands, it is necessary and equitable to provide for the orderly adjustment of their immigration status to that of permanent resident aliens." Congress also found that the immigration of family members of these workers would likely be detrimental to the Virgin Islands, and sharply limited the opportunity of family members not already long-term residents of the Virgin Islands to immigrate based upon the workers' new status. Congress also significantly limited the entry of new temporary workers into the Virgin Islands. There may be some similarities between the alien workers' situation in the CNMI and that of the Virgin Islands prior to this law.

We raise the precedent of P.L. 97-271 not to suggest that it is necessarily an appropriate model for a provision for the CNMI. Any legislation providing long-term status to workers in the CNMI would need to be carefully considered and drafted to provide appropriate provisions with respect to the extent of derivative eligibility for family members of workers and other important aspects of the program.

Visa waiver program

The CNRA emphasizes the need to protect the CNMI economy and promote economic development. The CNMI has beautiful beaches and five-star hotel accommodations that are more than half empty. Given that tourism is now the mainstay of the CNMI economy, wherever possible both federal and local officials must seek not only to avoid actions that may harm various sectors of the tourism market, but also to consider actions that promote increased tourism. As the federal government continues to consider immigration policy for the CNMI and Guam, an important consideration is that previously, part of the attractiveness of the CNMI has been its visa-free entry for tourists. For instance, Chinese and Russian tourists accounted for 22 percent of CNMI tourists in 2008. For fiscal year 2009, Chinese and Russian tourists accounted for 9.2 percent of all arrivals. Since October 2009, the percentage of Chinese and Russian tourists account for 12.4 percent of tourist arrivals. While this number may seem small, their contribution to the economy is significant; contributing approximately 20 percent of the total economic contribution from tourism.

United States visa requirements now apply to foreign tourists to the CNMI. However, Title VII created a new Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program. For this new Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program, DHS has issued an interim final rule that waives the visa requirements for eligible visitors from 12 countries and geographic areas. At this time, China and Russia are not among the countries and geographic areas participating in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

On Oct. 21, 2009, DHS agreed to administratively grant parole on a case-by-case basis to otherwise admissible (except for the lack of a visa) Chinese and Russian tourists seeking to visit the CNMI until the rule implementing the provisions of Title VII is finalized or another date designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security. DHS announced this discretionary exercise of parole authority in recognition of the contribution of visitors from China and Russia to the CNMI economy. The Department of the Interior looks forward to working with DHS on these issues, including examining whether to extend the exercise of parole authority to Guam and whether to add countries or geographic areas to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

While immigration transition in the CNMI has encountered a number of issues that require resolution, this has not deterred the federal government from continuing to seek a smooth transition. We realize that change is difficult, but strongly believe that the federalization of immigration matters in the CNMI will bring about higher security for the Marianas archipelago as well as an improved environment for business and provide economic opportunities to the people of the CNMI.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated birthday greetings to Dan Albert Puri, who celebrated his 8th birthday last May 16, 2010, at the San Jose Pavilion, San Jose, Saipan. May you have more birthdays to come and more blessings from Papa Jesus. Greetings coming from grandpa Joe and grandma Lou.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to my loving wife, Lucille T. Aguon, who celebrated her special day yesterday, May 28, 2010. May all your wishes come true and may the good Lord bless you! Greetings come from, your husband, Isaac, right, your two angels Ofhing and Destyne and the SPED/TROOPS family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to a great dad, Manuel Babauta Kisa, whose birthday is May 30, 2010. Wishing you all the best because you deserve it and we love and miss you so much! Love, Annie, Chris, Zay, Bing & Krissy Boo!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Birthday celebrant Dan Albert Puri with his friends, his dad Mel standing behind him and his brother Jolo on his right side.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 14th birthday to Jace Allyson Tellei Pineda, left. We are proud of you. We love you! Best wishes coming from Papa and Mama.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings going out to Elton Escaros who is celebrating his birthday today, May 29, 2010! Hope you have a great one and a great prom night! Much love coming out from your family, friends, KD, and your STUCO crew!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



SHOES FOR RON

Ronald Villafria, who will be participating in the 2010 Mt. Fuji Marathon, receives a cash donation and two pairs of running shoes from Maeda Pacific Corp. president Thomas J. Nielsen. Villafria will also represent the CNMI in the Micronesian Games to be held in Palau. Good luck, Ron!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONGRATULATION TO THE HOFSCHNEIDER GIRLS!

Kelly Ann Hofschneider, left, was named Class Salutatorian in their recently held GCA Commencement Exercises. Her sister, Lauren Nicole Hofschneider, right, was one of the selected Young Leader/Achiever for the LeadAmerica Conference this summer. Lauren will be attending the Medicine & Healthcare Conference at the University of California at Los Angeles. Greetings coming from the Family, Friends and staff of Hofschneider Engineering, LLC

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Kenichi Luke Shirata for graduating with Valedictorian honors from the Grace Christian Academy Elementary for school year 2009-2010.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



HONOR STUDENT

Paul Kekoa Lister, a K5 student of Grace Christian Academy, received 3rd honor award during their graduation on Tuesday. "Congratulations and we are all proud of you. Keep it up." From Tess Pineda and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

One laptop per child's next move: \$100 tablet

JESSICA MINTZ
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

SEATTLE (AP)—The non-profit organization that has tried to produce a \$100 laptop for children in the world's poorest places is throwing in the towel on that idea—and jumping on the tablet bandwagon.

One Laptop Per Child's next computer will be based on chipmaker Marvell Technology Group Ltd.'s Moby tablet design. Marvell announced a prototype of the device this year and said it costs about \$99.

Nicholas Negroponte, founder of One Laptop Per Child, is optimistic his organization will be able to keep the price under \$100 in part because Marvell plans to market its tablets widely to schools and health

care institutions.

"We want to see the price drop, and volume is the key to that," Negroponte said.

The quirky green and white XO laptop sold by One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) to governments and organizations in countries such as Afghanistan and Uruguay wasn't destined for such a broad audience. OLPC had to repeatedly scale back expectations for how many of the laptops it could produce, and it didn't get the price much below \$200, twice the price specified by the device's "\$100 laptop" nickname.

In 2005, Negroponte envisioned having built 100 million laptops in about two years. Today, 2 million of the machines are in use.

The XO was also more ex-



One Laptop Per Child's planned next computer will be a tablet computer costing \$100.

pensive to produce than a tablet would be because of its many moving parts and features meant to withstand glaring sun, blowing sand and spotty access to electricity. In some cases, OLPC had to change the XO's design by region. For example, the physical keyboard had to be customized for students in countries that don't use a Latin alphabet. It would be less expensive to change the software behind touch-screen keyboards.

Marvell's co-founder, Weili

ONLINE:

<http://www.laptop.org>

Dai, said the company has also found ways to cut costs in the way it's designing the chips.

The new tablets will have at least one, and maybe two, video cameras. They'll sport Wi-Fi connections to the Internet, "multi-touch" screens and have enough power to play high-definition and 3-D video. Marvel hopes to make the screens 8.5

inches by 11 inches, the size of a standard sheet of paper. Unlike Apple Inc.'s iPad tablet, the device will also work with plug-in peripherals such as mice.

Negroponte said he eventually wants the tablets to run some version of the free Linux PC operating software. But the first generation of the "XO 3.0" tablet will likely use Android, the mobile-device operating system from Google Inc., or something similar.

Although his group, which

is based in Cambridge, Mass., worked with Microsoft Corp. to get its Windows operating system running on the XO laptops, Negroponte said the new tablets will not use Windows 7 because the software requires too much memory and computing power.

Negroponte said he plans to unveil the tablet device at the annual International Consumer Electronics Show in January.

The One Laptop Per Child project has its share of skeptics, who have questioned the possibility of manufacturing a laptop for \$100 and the point of computers in countries that lack basic infrastructure.

Even so, OLPC's work turned competitors on to the growing market for technology in developing countries. Companies including Intel Corp. came up with their own designs for inexpensive laptops for kids, while other organizations figured out ways to turn regular desktop computers into multiple workstations, drastically cutting costs for school computer labs and Internet cafes.

The scramble to produce inexpensive laptops for kids in developing countries also helped prime the pump for the recent flood of "netbooks," which are smaller, cheaper and less powerful than laptops.

Negroponte said the last few months have been a turning point for his group.

"People are no longer asking 'Does this work?'" Negroponte said. "The one question I hear all the time is, how do I pay for it? How do the economics work?"



One Laptop Per Child planned to build 100 million laptops in about two years, but today, only 2 million of the machines are in use.

Cartoon Network plans major anti-bullying campaign

By DAVID CRARY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Next fall, when millions of kids tune into Cartoon Network to watch Bugs Bunny, Scooby-Doo and other favorites, they'll encounter something new—an ambitious campaign to enlist them as foot soldiers in the fight against bullying.

Unlike many bullying programs, this one is geared toward middle school, where experts say bullying is most common. It also targets not bullies nor the bullied, but kids who witness bullying, giving them appropriate techniques to intervene.

"There are specific strategies young people can learn to make a difference in their schools and communities," said Alice Cahn, Cartoon Network's vice president of social responsibility. "We decided to focus on those who watch bullying happen—the bystander community—who know they should do something, but are not sure what."

The anti-bullying campaign includes content in the car-

toons themselves, in public service ads, in an online curriculum and on CNN, which will include complementary programming for parents.

Susan Limber, of Clemson University's Institute on Family and Neighborhood Life, said she was intrigued by the proposed fusion of Cartoon Network and CNN efforts.

"I like the fact we're bridging the generations," said Limber, who served on a panel of bullying experts used by Cartoon Network. "Kids alone can't address bullying. They need adults to take the issue seriously and be there to help."

In partnership with a federal agency, the network plans to start the campaign Oct. 1, both on the air and on its popular, game-filled website.

The idea for the campaign arose last summer, when Cartoon Network polled children from its audience on their worries. War and the economic woes of their parents topped the list, but the children said they were powerless to resolve those problems. Bullying, in contrast,

surfaced as a problem children felt they could help combat.

Cahn noted that PBS, through shows like "Sesame Street", has been teaching anti-bullying lessons to preschoolers for decades, but that this program is different in targeting viewers in or approaching middle school.

"There's never been a sustained approach aimed at the audience that's growing away from teacher/parent involvement in their lives and is beginning to make decisions for themselves," Cahn said. "We can be that expert source to help them stop a problem we know is really bothering them."

The campaign plans to make use of "teachable moments" in the cartoons themselves, Cahn said.

"When the show is over, we can very quickly say, 'Remember this bit? If you want more information, look at our website.'"

Bullying prevention gained prominence and funding following the deadly 1999 shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado. Several recent cases of youth suicides linked to

bullying have kept the topic in the spotlight.

Harvard Medical School psychologist Ronald Slaby, who also is serving on Cartoon Network's advisory panel, said the "bystander strategy" is considered the most promising approach to curtailing bullying.

Studies indicate that about 85 percent of bullying incidents are witnessed by bystanders, yet only about one-fifth of the time do the witnesses intervene on behalf of the target, Slaby said.

"The bystander is almost always there," Slaby said. "They can be pivotal in allowing the bullying to continue and escalate, or to stopping it."

The Cartoon Network campaign, still being designed, will offer these bystanders a range of tactics for confronting the bully or alerting adults.

"It's almost like a game that's being played," Slaby said. "If you get a child to think strategically that they have a role to play as a bystander, that's the key."

The network's website will include links to the federal Health Resources and Services

Administration's Stop Bullying Now campaign.

Stephanie Bryn, the agency's project officer, said Cartoon Network's campaign appeared to be the most comprehensive anti-bullying effort yet by any of major youth-oriented U.S. networks. But the issue also is being addressed by Cartoon Network's competitors.

Nickelodeon said the back-to-school "Nick News" episode airing this fall will cover bullying, offering the firsthand perspective of kids.

Disney Channel said its live action and animated series regularly include anti-bullying themes. One of the channel's stars, Demi Lovato of "Sonny With A Chance" and "Camp Rock," is a national spokeswoman for Teens Against Bullying.

Cartoon Network, available in 97 million U.S. homes, says it averages more than 1 million viewers at any point between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., including 1.4 million during 8-10 p.m. prime time. The vast majority are 6- to 14-year-olds—more than two-thirds of them boys.

Mo. 3rd-grader wins Google's 'doodle' contest

EL DORADO SPRINGS, Mo. (AP)—A Missouri third-grader got the chance to illustrate Google's website for the day.

Makenzie Melton, who is 9 and from El Dorado Springs in southwest Missouri, won Google's nationwide competition for a "doodle" that incorporates Google's colorful logo. The competition was for K-12 students.

Makenzie's drawing "Rainforest Habitat" was chosen out of 33,000 entries from across the United States. Online voting during the past week narrowed it down to four finalists. Google executives chose the winner.

Makenzie wins \$15,000 and a netbook computer. Her school receives a \$25,000 technology grant for a new computer lab.



THE LONGER THE ANDERSONS STAY AWAY, the worse Timmy's throw becomes. Count the newspapers in this picture and see if you get the same total we got.

Answer: We found 52 newspapers in the drawing.

THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE WRONG! Timmy has an equation that he claims is right, but it certainly looks wrong to us. However, he'll bet you anything that he can prove it's right. Any takers?

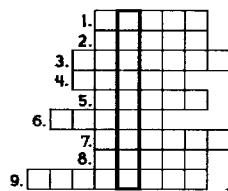
FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "DENOTE." Can you replace these letters in the squares so that you have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds.

Answer: (Across): Nod, ado, mot, ere, (Down): Name, odor, dote

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A NINE-WORD COURSE!



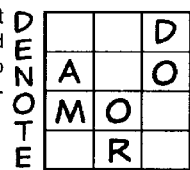
Are you ready for a round of "Word Golf"? There is room in our grid for nine words pertaining to golf. The following hints should help.

1. A no-distance tee shot.
2. A golfer's favorite form of wildlife.
3. An out-of-bounds reward.
4. Golf's beast of burden.
5. Was part of the fairway.
6. A pizza tee shot.
7. Another term for sand trap.
8. Found around a green.
9. Idle golfing group.

There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly solve the puzzles, the letters in the frame, top to bottom, will spell out the thing that makes all players equal.

Answers: 1. Whiff; 2. Eagle; 3. Penalty; 4. Caddy; 5. Divot; 6. Slice; 7. Hazard; 8. Apron; 9. Foursome. The dark frame spells "Handicaps."

Illustrated by David Coulson



Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte who made the following sage observation: "In politics, absurdity is not a handicap."

■ You may consider the bikini to be a modern phenomenon, but in the ruins of Pompeii, which was buried by ash from an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 A.D., there are murals depicting people in two-piece bathing suits.

■ Are you a librocubicularist? If, like me, you like to read in bed, then you are.

■ Academy Award-winning actress Bette Davis was evidently so concerned about the possibility of gaining weight between roles that in the 1940s she took out an insurance policy on her waist, in the amount of \$28,000.

■ According to statistics from the Social Security Administration, about one-third of people who claim to be more than 100 years old aren't telling the truth. It seems that people age 75 and older tend to add years when asked how old they are, while those under age 75 tend to say they're younger than they are.

■ Beer steins have covers to keep flies out.

■ Last year, much was made of the Obama family's plan to adopt a dog. Many first families have had pets, though, and some presidents have not been content with a run-of-the-mill dog or cat. For instance, Thomas Jefferson kept two bear cubs in a cage on the front lawn of the White House, and Theodore Roosevelt had a zebra. An alligator was the pet of choice for John Quincy Adams, and James Buchanan kept an elephant.

■ Jujiro Matsuda was a blacksmith before he founded the Mazda auto manufacturing company.

Thought for the Day: "The kiss originated when the first male reptile licked the first female reptile, implying in a subtle way that she was as succulent as the small reptile he had for dinner the night before."—F. Scott Fitzgerald

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MAGIC MAZE

FORBES RICHEST AMERICANS LIST

G Q N J G D A X J D T U R O L
J G D A X V S W E P T N K I F
C A N I R (B A L L M E R) X V S
Q O L O J L L H E C F A X V T
R P N N T I L J H F F D B Y L
S O R O S L X P V T U R P O E
M K N O T L A W S H B I G E A
D B N Z X L P W W C U T R Q H
O N L J L I A H C O K D G F C
D C S E T A G W A K Y X W V I
T S N R P O E N A C L K J I M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

A. Walton
Ballmer
Brin
Buffett
C. Koch
C. Walton
D. Koch
Dell
Ellison
Gates
J. Walton
P. Allen
Page
S. Walton
Soros

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

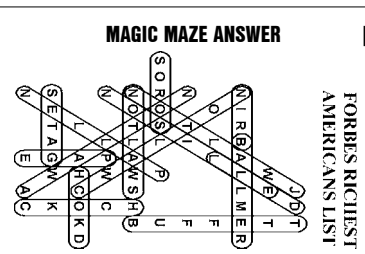
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		2
+		+		+	
	+		+		21
+		x		x	
	x		-		17
15		32		24	

1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
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FORBES RICHEST AMERICANS LIST

GO FIGURE ANSWER

15	32	24							
5	4	x							
3									
21	x	x							
8	9	+							
2	1	2	÷						

Train a cat? It's possible

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Can you train a cat?—Janice in Wheeling, W.Va.

DEAR JANICE: Sure, although I'm of the opinion that most cats train you. Seriously—they learn, pretty early on, what "buttons" to push to get you to give them food or treats, let them out, pet them or stop typing a pet column and pay attention to him or her.

But you can have the last laugh and train your cat to respond to commands or signals. Remember that cats are very different than dogs in their approach to the world and in how they respond. In fact, you'll want to somewhat mimic the way that your cat learns to train you: They observe you quietly, then test a few different methods of getting what they want and adopt the most successful one.

It's also important to note that cats don't respond well to negative reinforcement. You can shake a can of pennies at them or hiss or yell "no!" when a cat is doing something you don't want it to do, and that might work in the short term, but mostly their response is to run away.

If you're training a cat to specifically do something on command, you need to use positive reinforcement almost exclusively. This is rewarding the cat with a treat, a stroke or a kind word immediately



after it responds to the movement you're trying to teach. The cat needs to develop a positive association with the activity.

Keep training sessions short and somewhat spontaneous. Most cats don't last more than five or 10 minutes per session. And don't get discouraged if your cat doesn't "get" it after days or weeks. Instead, be patient and look for new ways to make the connection with your cat.

Send your pet questions and tips to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.PawsCorner.com.

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Corral clutter creatively

For the Legomaniac Scott boys and their friends, it was a dream come true when they woke up to the wondrous site of a gigantic Lego truck on the street in front of their house. Ryan, the driver and team member of the "Lego Experience Tour," had no idea how the truck with more than 200 Lego figures emblazoned on its exterior would capture the hearts of the kids when he passed by on the way to set up the exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair.

With three boys under the age of 8, the Scotts don't actually buy Lego bricks by the truckload, but when Melissa invited me into her sons' "Basement Lego Room" amidst the excitement that morning, I was all smiles. With



Lego posters on walls, completed models on shelves and cool projects in process, it's a dynamic gathering place for kids and their creativity.

"But we finally had to come to grips with the clutter," said Melissa, as she lifted a bin of wheel parts onto a shelf. "The kids were frustrated when they couldn't find the right piece to complete a project." That's when they decided to sort the zillions of Legos strewn around the house, organize them by color and subject and keep them in one room. See-through plastic bins now house the reds, the grays and the blues, while plastic tackle-box-style containers with dividers store ladders, shields, animals and people.

"Now that we've made order out of chaos, they can actually be more creative," she says. "Plus, it makes cleanup less overwhelming at the end of the day."

Melissa thinks outside the Lego box when it comes to other clever clutter busters. Namely keeping track of electronic gadgets, gizmos and cords that can strangle a family's living space.

Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Cell phones, chargers, a camera and even a laptop land in a wide top drawer situated under a kitchen counter top. When a gadget needs charging, it is plugged into a surge protector, which sits in the back of the drawer. A 3-inch hole drilled through the back end of the drawer routes the power-strip cord to an outlet. Brilliant! No more messy cords and no more misplaced phones.

Here are more clutter busters:

■ Arrange your child's personal-care items such as hairbrush, barrettes and shampoo in portable plastic caddies or totes with handles. Paint names and decorate the outside. Store in bedrooms or under the bathroom sink.

■ Set a basket at the base of the stairs as a collect-all of everyday stuff such as books, shoes and toys. With just a single trip up the stairs, items may be returned to their proper places.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Oldest Medal of Honor recipient from WWII dies

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Retired Navy Lt. John Finn—the first American to receive the nation's highest military award for defending sailors under a torrent of gunfire during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor—died Thursday. He was 100.

Finn was the oldest of 97 Medal of Honor recipients from World War II still living. He died at a nursing home for veterans in Chula Vista, outside San Diego, according to a Navy statement.

Despite head wounds and other injuries, Finn, the chief of ordnance for an air squadron, continuously fired a .50-caliber machine gun from an exposed position as bullets and bombs pounded the Naval Air Station at Kaneohe Bay in Oahu. He then supervised the rearming of returning American planes.

"Here they're paying you for doing your duty, and that's what I did," Finn

told The Associated Press before his 100th birthday. "I never intended to be a hero. But on Dec. 7, by God, we're in a war."

President Barack Obama said "his modesty does not diminish his extraordinary conduct or the incredible example he has set for our men and women

In this Dec. 7, 2006 file photo, John Finn, a Medal of Honor recipient for his actions during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, salutes at the ground breaking ceremony for the USS Oklahoma memorial on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

AP



in uniform and for all Americans."

"I had the privilege of meeting Lt. Finn last year, and I was struck by his warmth and humility," Obama said in a statement from the White House. "As we mark Memorial Day, and pay tribute all who have fallen in defense of this nation, the passing of Lt. Finn is a reminder of the sacrifices that generations have made to preserve the freedoms we hold dear."

Finn, who enlisted in the Navy just before his 17th birthday, received the Medal of Honor on Sept. 15, 1942.

Born July 23, 1909, in Los Angeles, Finn lived for 50 years on his ranch near Live Oak Springs, outside San Diego.

Finn died at the Veterans Home of California in Chula Vista, the Navy said. Officials initially said he had died at his ranch.

He will be buried with full military honors. Kakiel said the Navy was still working with his family members on the details.

Universal Studios reopens backlot after fire

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP)—Hollywood loves a sequel, especially during the summer. It's familiar, it's comforting, and most of all, it's bankable.

Universal Studios got a new chapter of its own Thursday with the reopening of its backlot, which an accidental fire decimated two years ago. The \$200 million project will once again allow filmmakers to shoot on the streets of New York without having to leave Los Angeles, and it'll give visitors on the studio tour a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the moviemaking process.

Among the films that had been shot there prior to the June 2008 blaze—which also damaged the "King Kong" theme park attraction—were "Back to the Future," "To Kill a Mockingbird," "The Sting," "Bruce Almighty" and "The Blues Brothers."

The new lot features 13 city blocks and 15 shooting areas over four acres. It includes sections that resemble Central Park, Wall Street, a Broadway theater district, brownstones and a courthouse square. The backlot can also stand in for London. And with a pub, cafe, bank, jewelry shop and many other storefronts, it can function as any city anywhere.

The heights of buildings were increased while, at the same time, the streets were narrowed to allow shooting on both sides simultaneously. The revamp also includes improved fire warning and prevention systems.

Steven Spielberg, who has a 40-year history with Universal, was one of the first people who arrived after the fire. He helped reconstruct the lot with a team that included veteran production designer Rick Carter, who won an Oscar this year for "Avatar" and has worked with Spielberg on such films as "Amistad," "War of the Worlds" and the first two "Jurassic Park" movies.

The director said when he got to the backlot at 6:30 a.m. the day of the fire, "it was truly an inferno."

"The flames were hundreds of feet into the air and everything was coming down quickly," he said. "The smells, the sounds—it was very much like, but actually worse than, 18 years before when the same real estate burned down, burned down to the ground, and



Standing and applauding at podium, from left, are producer Steven Spielberg, Universal Studios President and Chief Operating Officer, Ron Meyers, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, at a dedication ceremony for Universal Studios newly rebuilt New York Street backlot locations, at the studio in Universal City, Calif., Thursday, May 27, 2010.

House of McQueen names new creative director

NEW YORK (AP)—The house of Alexander McQueen has named Sarah Burton, a longtime colleague of the late designer, to be the new creative director of the brand.

In a statement from London released Thursday, Burton said she intends "to stay true to his legacy" by turning out "modern beautifully crafted clothes."

The announcement was part of a series of shake-ups announced Thursday. At luxury label Hermes, womenswear artistic director Jean Paul Gaultier is being replaced by Lacoste's Christophe Lemaire. And Theory confirms a Women's Wear Daily report that Olivier Theyskens, formerly of Nina Ricci and Rochas, will design a capsule collection for next year.

McQueen, hailed as a creative genius in the fashion world, committed suicide in his London apartment in February.

Burton joined McQueen's company in 1996, a year before graduating Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. She most recently served as head of design for womenswear.

Parent company Gucci Group said that because Burton worked so close-



AP

This undated photo provided by David Burton shows Sarah Burton. The house of Alexander McQueen named Sarah Burton, a longtime colleague of the late designer, to be the new creative director of the brand.

ly with McQueen she has "the vision necessary to take it forward."

"As a business we remain absolutely committed to the Alexander McQueen company which has proved to have a strong customer loyalty and has shown to be a resilient brand in the aftermath of the tragic loss of its founder," said Gucci Group CEO Robert Polet.

had to be rebuilt. I was on that team 18 years ago and I was very proud to volunteer my services to rebuild the lot this time."

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who shot five films on the Universal backlot in his previous life as an actor, said the studio helped make him the star he became when it released "Conan the Barbarian" in 1982.

Can Ellen do for music what Winfrey did for books?

NEW YORK (AP)—When Ellen DeGeneres was selected to replace Paula Abdul on "American Idol," there were a few grumblings from people who questioned her musical expertise.

While it was clear from her boogying ways on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" that she's a music fan, DeGeneres had no official role in the industry and had never played a role in creating music.

Now, that's all changed. With her new record company, eleveneleven, DeGeneres is poised to become more than just a tastemaker; she's hoping to be a star-maker. And some of music's top executives and entertainers believe the talk-show host and "Idol" judge is the right person to help a sagging industry.

"She has talent, she has feel, and she has the platform. She's the modern record company. Ellen is what a record company will look like in the future," said Jimmy Iovine, chairman of Interscope, Geffen and A&M Records.

In an announcement earlier this week, DeGeneres said the first artist to be signed to the label is 12-year-old Greyson Chance, who recently became a sensation on YouTube with his piano version of Lady Gaga's "Paparazzi."

There's no date for the album's release, and a source familiar with the new label said DeGeneres is in talks to distribute eleveneleven through a major record company. Eleveneleven is a partnership between DeGeneres and Telepictures Productions, the producer of her hit show.

Even before creating the label, DeGeneres was seen as a powerful force to boost music in the industry. While many talk shows have music guests, DeGeneres' show stands out because she's a fan.



DeGeneres

"Her openness to music and her love of music has been a great aid in us really sort of breaking our artists and exposing our artists," said Antonio "L.A." Reid, chairman of Island Def Jam.

The record label considered her so critical to the project's success that Kanye West's first video from his 2008 album, "808s & Heartbreak," premiered on her show; he also performed.

"It's been great for us, and we consider her show an asset to our industry," he said.

With eleveneleven, DeGeneres' goal will be to break new talent. She has shown interest in highlighting new acts. Filipino singer Charice, another YouTube sensation, got a contract with Warner Bros. Records and became a protege of renowned music producer David Foster after appearing as a guest on DeGeneres' show.

"She can break artists on the show. She has something that I wish I had," Reid said. "The fact that she's always expressed such passion for music naturally attracts music lovers to her show."

Before Greyson's May 13 appearance on DeGeneres' show, his video had 10,000 hits; it now has over 30 million.

Child TV star Gary Coleman hospitalized in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Former child television star Gary Coleman is in critical condition near his Utah home, a hospital spokeswoman said Thursday.

Utah Valley Regional Medical Center spokeswoman Janet Frank said Coleman, 42, was admitted to the Provo facility on Wednesday but she couldn't release any other details.

Coleman lives in Santaquin, which is 55 miles south of Salt Lake City. The actor is best known for his stint on TV's "Diff'rent Strokes," which aired from 1978 to 1986.

In February, Coleman suffered a seizure on the set of "The Insider."

Coleman's Utah attorney, Randy Kester, said he had communicated by text message with Coleman's wife, Shannon Price, and that the family did not want to release any additional details at this time.

"Anything they could say would be premature because they don't know the full extent of his condition right now," Kester told The Associated Press.

Coleman has lived in Utah since 2005, when he came here to star in the movie "Church Ball," a comedy based on basketball leagues formed by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He met Price on the movie set



In this Feb. 26, 2008 file photo, actor Gary Coleman appears on the the NBC "Today" program in New York.

and married her in 2007.

Coleman has had a string of financial and legal problems, in addition to continuing ill health from the kidney disease he suffered as a child. Coleman has had at least two kidney transplants and has ongoing dialysis.

Last fall, Coleman had heart surgery that was complicated by pneumonia, Kester said.

In February, Coleman pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor criminal mischief charge related to an April 2009 domestic violence incident at his home. Recent health issues have caused several follow-up hearings in Coleman's case to be delayed, Kester said.

Palin makes good on fence threat

WASILLA, Alaska (AP)—Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin is making good on a threat to build a fence around her Wasilla home to keep her new neighbor—an author who is writing a book about her—from peering in.

Palin, wearing running shorts, a T-shirt and visor, joked with a reporter outside the gate of her lakeside home Thursday about having to build a fence to protect her family's privacy. But she declined further comment, saying she was

busy babysitting her nephews.

Palin, the 2008 GOP vice presidential nominee, took to Facebook on Monday to "welcome" author Joe McGinniss, who'd previously written a critical magazine article on Palin. She said he was renting a house next door "for the next five months or so" and wondered what he'd gather "while overlooking Piper's bedroom, my little garden, and the family's swimming hole?"

She said work would begin on

a "tall fence tomorrow."

On Wednesday, a picture of the wooden fence was posted on the blog of Fox News' Greta Van Susteren. Palin is a contributor to Fox News.

McGinniss, author of such best-selling books as "The Selling of the President," "Blind Faith" and "Fatal Vision," is planning a book, tentatively titled, "Sarah Palin's Year of Living Dangerously." It could be on book shelves next year.

Bullock to receive MTV Generation Award



This March 7, 2010 file photo shows Sandra Bullock, arriving at the 82nd Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sandra Bullock is coming to the MTV Movie Awards.

The network says the 45-year-old actress will attend the June 6 ceremony to accept the MTV Generation Award, its highest honor.

The Oscar winner, who has kept a low profile since her public split from husband Jesse James, is the first woman to receive the award. Past recipients include Tom Cruise, Ben Still-

er, Adam Sandler, Mike Myers and Jim Carrey.

MTV General Manager Stephen Friedman says Bullock is "adored by our audience as both an actress and a role model."

Hosted by Aziz Ansari, the MTV Movie Awards will be broadcast live from the Gibson Amphitheatre. Presenters include Sandler, Cruise, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, Chris Rock, Steve Carell and Cameron Diaz.

Ferguson to talk about scandal to Oprah Winfrey

CHICAGO (AP)—The Duchess of York is taking her side of the story to the queen of television.

Just days ago, a British tabloid reported that Sarah Ferguson was caught on video offering access to her former husband, Prince Andrew, for \$724,000. Now, she's going to tell her side of the story to Oprah Winfrey.

"The Oprah Winfrey Show" says the interview with the Duchess of York will air Tuesday.

The program says it will be Ferguson's first TV interview since the news broke last weekend.

But Ferguson hasn't been hiding out. On Wednesday she appeared before booksellers and librarians at a New York trade show to promote children's books. She didn't address the scandal directly during a panel with other authors at Book Expo America but made a few references to it.



ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Alicia Keys pregnant with her 1st child, to marry

NEW YORK (AP)—Alicia Keys is in a motherhood state of mind: She's pregnant with her first child. The Grammy Award-winning R&B singer has been dating producer Swizz Beatz, who has written hits for Beyonce, Jay-Z and others. They're engaged to be married at a private ceremony later this year. Representatives for the couple confirmed the news Thursday night. Keys last year teamed up with Jay-Z for a hit song about New York called "Empire State of Mind." She's among a string of international artists slated to perform at a June 10 concert to mark the start of the World Cup soccer tournament in South Africa. Beatz has been married before and has two sons.

Austin names downtown street for Willie Nelson

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Austin, Texas has no "Whiskey River," but it will have a downtown street named for Willie Nelson. The Austin City Council voted Thursday to add the iconic Texas balladeer's name to Second Street downtown. The Austin American-Statesman reports the city will install "Willie Nelson Boulevard" along the street. The street will retain Second Street as its formal name, but businesses and residents along the street will be able to receive mail using the new name.

Meanwhile, the nonprofit Capital Area Statues group is raising money to put a life-size statue of Nelson on Second Street in front of the "Austin City Limits" studio. Nelson has lived in the Austin area for nearly 40 years.

No charges for Gene Simmons over LA mall attack

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Prosecutors will not charge Kiss rocker Gene Simmons over an alleged attack on a couple at an upscale outdoor mall, while a new, separate civil lawsuit claims the musician sexually assaulted a makeup artist. The district attorney's office stated in documents Wednesday that there was not enough evidence the 60-year-old musician threatened Nathan Marlowe and his wife Cynthia Manzo at The Grove mall in Los Angeles last December. Marlowe had said the musician choked the couple and took their video camera after they started filming the star, while Simmons told police that Marlowe shoved the camera in his face and that he feared for his family's safety. Simmons' attorney Barry Mallen called the decision "completely expected."

Rock band Bon Jovi opens new Giants/Jets stadium

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Bon Jovi has officially opened the new stadium for the New York Giants and New York Jets

with a rock concert for 65,000 fans. The New Jersey band launched Wednesday's show at New Meadowlands Stadium with "Blood on Blood," "We Weren't Born to Follow" and "You Give Love a Bad Name." Lead singer Jon Bon Jovi grew up in Sayreville, 30 miles southwest of the East Rutherford stadium. He told the crowd he was "the first guy to get on a big microphone and say welcome to the home of the Super Bowl!" The NFL announced Tuesday the stadium would host the championship game in 2014.

Wife of RFK Jr. pleads not guilty to NY DWI charge

BEDFORD HILLS, N.Y. (AP)—The wife of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has pleaded not guilty to driving while intoxicated in New York. Attorney Kerry Lawrence entered the plea Thursday night for 50-year-old Mary Richardson Kennedy, who's accused of jumping a curb near a school. Kennedy's arraignment took place in Bedford Town Court, about 45 miles north of New York City. Kennedy's husband is a prominent environmental lawyer and son of former Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. He wasn't in court. Mary Kennedy was arrested May 15 after a police officer said he saw her run over a curb outside a school near her Bedford home. Police say she had a blood-alcohol level of 0.11 percent. The legal limit is 0.08 percent.

Sisters clash over homework help for struggling boyfriend

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm an "A" student, but my boyfriend, "Rory," has a difficult time in school, so he often comes over for help. We work at the computer in the room my sister and I share so she listens to everything we discuss. She says we are cheating because I'm doing most of his homework for him.



I don't give Rory the answers to questions, but I do give him "hints" and tell him where he's likely to find the answers in the textbooks.

Dear Abby

I always check that the answers are correct. With his math homework, I tell him each step he needs to take, but he actually does the math himself and then I check for accuracy. If he needs to write an essay, I suggest what he might want to write and help him with some of the edits.

My sister thinks what I do goes far beyond help, and that I'm enabling him to cheat. She feels that while it may help his grades now, I am doing him no favors in the long run. We had a big argument over this. I don't think it's any of her business. I'd really appreciate your opinion.

HELPING OR CHEATING? SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

DEAR HELPING: Thank you for asking. I'm sure you care deeply for Rory, but sometimes—with the best of intentions—a person can do too much. When you suggest topics for your boyfriend's essays, then edit them so the teacher won't see where he needs to strengthen his English skills, what you're really doing is preventing him from learning how to properly spell or construct a sentence. And when you're no longer around to be his filter, it's going to become apparent.

The same goes for math. If you tell Rory what steps to take to solve his math problems, he won't master the concepts or memorize the formulas. Heaven help him if he plans to take a college entrance exam!

While the argument you had with your sister was regrettable, please try not to be so defensive. She was trying to tell you something important, and it couldn't hurt to really listen.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl in junior high. I am very shy and self-conscious. When I see skinny girls, I look at myself and feel embarrassed or ashamed. I have a lot of friends who support me. They say I shouldn't worry about my weight and that I don't need to lose any more.

I would like some words of encouragement from you. It seems like nothing can stop the way I feel. I have a boyfriend, but our relationship is long-distance. We talk online and he is as supportive as he can be, but I still feel self-conscious. Please help me with this.

TEEN IN NEED IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR TEEN: The harder we stare at our imagined flaws, the bigger they become. So please stop constantly comparing yourself to others. It's a depressing waste of time. Very few people are completely confident and self-assured at 13, and there are more important qualities to focus on in life than whatever happens to be the ideal of physical perfection at the moment. Your time would be better spent developing qualities that not only make you special, but also will last a lifetime—your personality, your intellect and your talents.

So listen to what your friends and your boyfriend are telling you. Spend a few minutes every day reminding yourself of all the things you have going for you and the special qualities you have to offer. If you do you'll have less time to dwell on the negative.

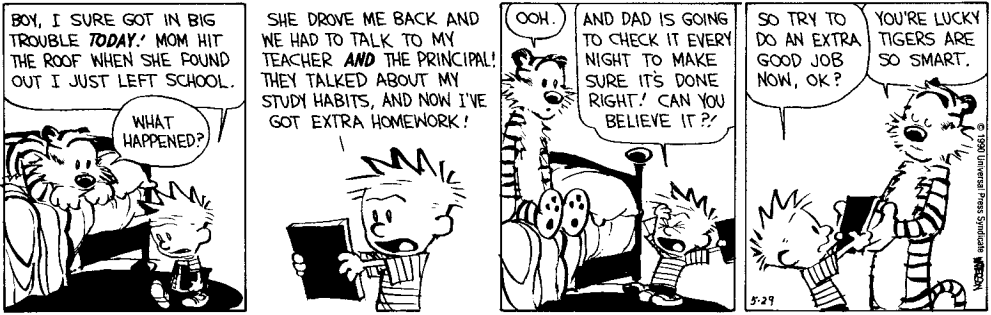
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 42 Vacation-ing 3 Condos, e.g. 24 Expert 25 Trail 44 Bullring cheers 4 Oocyte the pack 5 Hertz transac- tion 26 Humiliat- ing 6 Provincial dialect say 6 Sun- screen blunder 12 Alter 50 1998 medical additive 13 Stir up break- through 7 Scent Syria 14 Harmless 52 Hors d'oeuvre important 8 Youngster 30 Pirates' quaff 15 Genie's home? 54 If not important 31 "Certain- ly" 16 Fit of peevish- ness agree- ment 10 Capri, e.g. 33 A.E.S. opponent 17 Squad 56 Brawls 11 Progeny 34 Journey segment 19 Marry 57 Bags Sullivan's 39 Vinland pioneers 22 Noshed DOWN 18 Embodi- ment 41 Column style 24 Matter- horn, e.g. 1 After- ward 21 Service- woman 42 See 4-Dow 27 Low-pH chemical 2 Hindu royal 23 Pair 43 Suitable 45 Young woman 29 Lean and supple 32 Library aid 47 Soak up some rays 48 Long narrative work 35 "Zounds!" 36 European capital 37 "— Pinafore" 38 X rating? 40 Creche trio

Solution time: 27 mins.

Yesterdays answer 5-29

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mel- anie Brown, 35; Melissa Etheridge, 49; Annette Bening, 52; LaToya Jackson, 54

Happy Birthday: Uncertainty may block your vision and lead you down the wrong path. Question whatever you don't understand. This is not the year to take a chance or assume that things will get done to your specification if you don't oversee every little detail. Control and contribute and you will achieve. Your numbers are 7, 13, 19, 25, 29, 31, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Success is within reach. Don't let a personal obligation interfere with your plans. You have to put your own needs and goals first. A jealous friend or lover may be threatened by your accomplishments. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A chance to win something or come into unexpected cash is possible. A life-altering experience will have both positive and negative effects on the way you do things in the future. A love interest or someone you are close to will be your guiding light. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Bring an emotional matter out into the open so you know where you stand and can make a better decision. Make sure you don't send the wrong message. Complications will develop if you are indulgent or overreact. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a closer look at your most recent plans and you can start to lay the foundation for an exciting project. A little extra work now will ensure

your success later on. An opening you've been waiting for will finally come through. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take on a challenge that will allow you to show off your talents and skills. An unusual offer could very well lead to a profitable endeavor. Charm and diplomacy will work wonders. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will feel as if you are being used up if you continue to do too much for others. Let everyone take care of whatever responsibilities are given. You need to form relationships based on equality. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be forced to make changes if you procrastinate. Problems with a relationship can be expected if you ignore the real issues. Living a lie will only prolong the inevitable. Talk openly and honestly. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Opportunity awaits you; prepare to make gains. Business trips will pay off. Romance is in the stars and, if you mix business with pleasure, you will be in a winning situation on both counts. You can enhance both personal and professional associations. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The changes that take place in the relationships you have with friends, relatives or neighbors will set the stage for what's to come. It's important that you recognize who is with you and who isn't. Express the way you feel if you want to avoid an unsavory encounter. ***

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

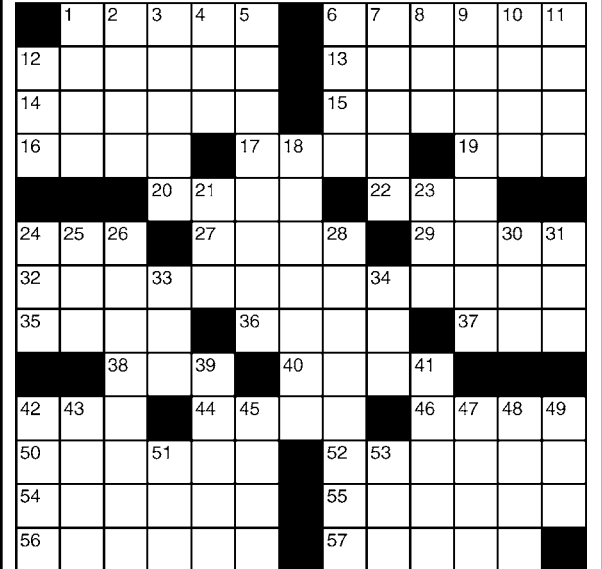
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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll feel emotional regarding personal issues that arise. Make your home one of comfort and relaxation. You need to get rid of any stress. A relationship will be intense and the action you take will determine how things will turn out. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Watch what everyone else is doing and you will have a better idea how to proceed. Stick to the rules. Ask questions and show interest in what others are doing. Being agreeable will help you acquire allies. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Once you know where you stand, you will be less inclined to overspend. Playing it safe financially may not be your style but, for now, it's the best route. Romance is highlighted. Put your time and energy into love. **

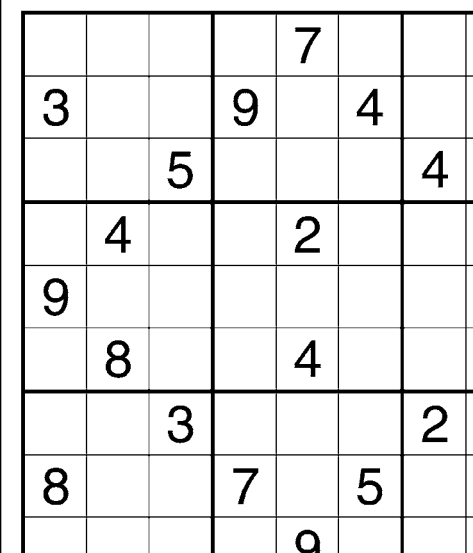
Birthday Baby: You have plenty of charm and are persuasive. You are emotional and tend to overreact. You are determined, dedicated and dynamic. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/29 ©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer

4	2	5	3	6	9	7	8	1
9	3	7	5	1	8	4	2	6
8	1	6	4	7	2	5	9	3
3	7	1	8	4	6	9	5	2
6	9	4	7	2	5	3	1	8
5	8	2	9	3	1	6	4	7
2	4	3	1	9	7	8	6	5
7	6	8	2	5	4	1	3	9
1	5	9	6	8	3	2	7	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/29

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HOW TOPEKA BECAME GOOGLE Solution: 9 letters

OPTIC PASE OTATOP OREHCRAMTSRGPIS UONTNEDISERLLDN TCGETSNSBIEOARE SLANXSIIETTBIAZ IAMIGPFHEIUANWI DMSLINEIRNTLSET EAPNGMNRRTUAIMRI RTEOAKUEIMTACEC SIENBKNSUMYNNVO EODIIFTTSIOEEEIU MNGITOETRCCNNVN ATTRACTESS(SIT)EC INOITACOLAMINAI LARUTLUCCAPITAL

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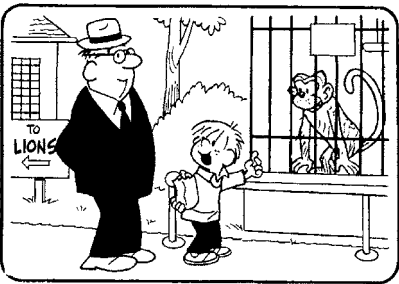
Amuse, Animal, Attract, Bunten, Capital, Cities, Citizens, Communities, Council, Cultural, E-mail, Experimental, Feel, Fiber, Find, Gigabit, Global, Kansas, Location, Magnet, March, Mayor, Music, Name, Online, Optic, Outsiders, Past, Pilot, Plains, Potatoes, Press, Proclamation, Resident, Revive, Reward, Scene, Site, Speed, Think Big, Venture

Yesterdays Answer: Espionage

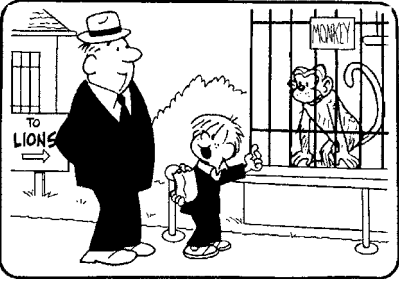
Treasury 6 can be ordered by sending check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each (\$14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, \$1.50 plus for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1100 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free 1-800-542-6480. Order online at wuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



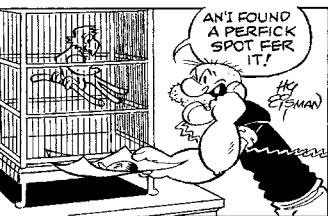
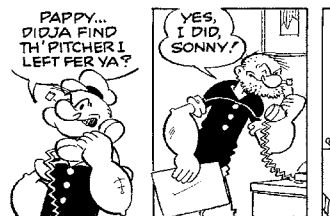
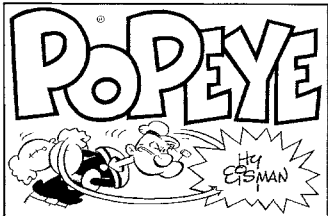
Differences: 1. Cage sign says "Monkey". 2. Boy's sweater is black. 3. Tree is missing. 4. Arrow is pointing the wrong way. 5. Tree is missing. 6. Window is different.

Wishing Well®

8	4	5	7	3	4	7	5	3	5	3	5	7
A	D	P	E	I	Y	M	R	M	O	P	N	P
3	2	6	7	6	2	3	8	4	8	7	8	6
O	D	A	H	B	E	R	W	N	O	A	R	E
5	7	2	6	4	8	3	2	5	4	2	3	2
O	S	E	T	A	K	T	P	U	M	E	A	N
7	4	6	7	3	8	5	2	3	5	3	5	7
I	I	T	Z	N	O	N	E	T	C	M	E	E
3	4	6	5	8	5	3	4	7	5	4	2	6
A	C	E	D	F	L	I	C	G	O	A	D	R
4	2	7	2	6	5	4	3	4	5	6	7	4
R	D	O	E	L	V	E	L	E	E	I	A	R
7	6	2	7	8	6	2	8	2	8	2	8	2
L	F	S	S	L	E	I	O	R	V	E	E	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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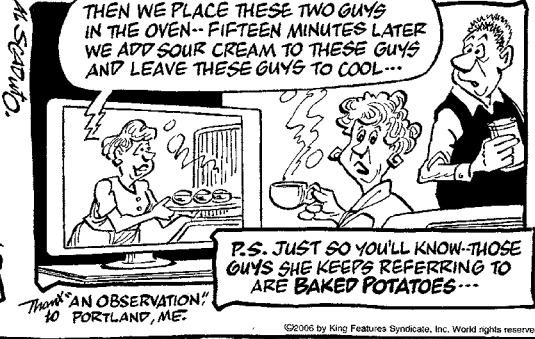
They'll Do It Every Time

WHEN IS ENOUGH ENOUGH?



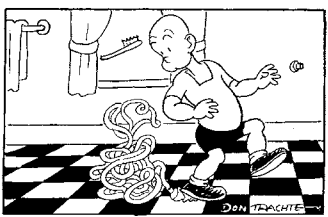
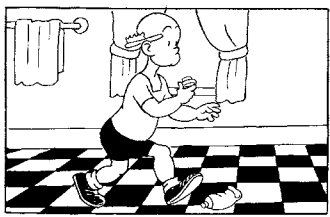
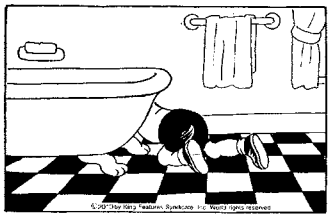
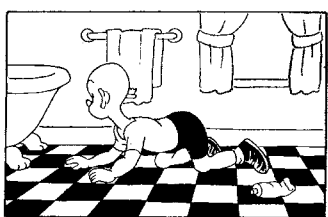
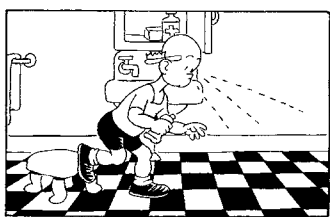
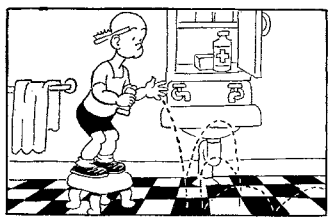
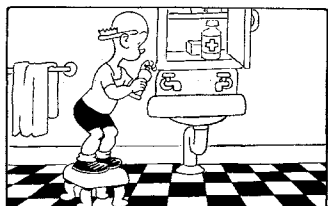
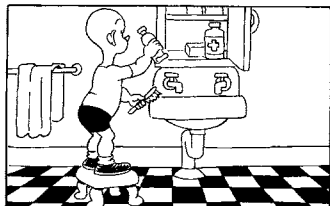
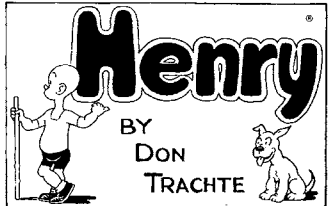
by Al Scaduto

HAVE YOU NOTICED? NEW TV COOKING SHOW LINGO—



LIFE USED TO BE SO SIMPLE DEPT— THE LOCAL HABERDASHERY GOES THE GLAMOUR ROUTE— LIKE THE LIPSTICK BUSINESS —

—THANK TO B. WAVERLY, CINCINNATI, OHIO



Super Crossword

HEALTH SCORE

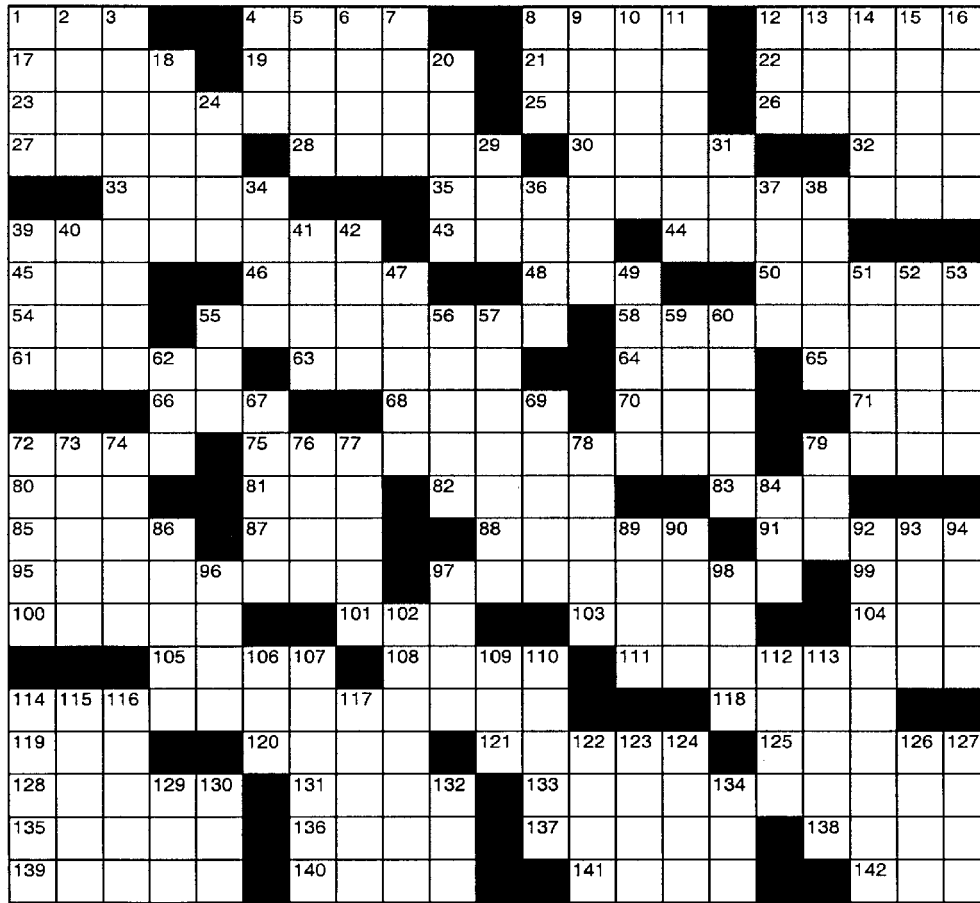
ACROSS

- 1 Matterhorn, e.g.
- 4 It's a long story
- 8 Steel support
- 12 Iridescent stones
- 17 Ocho —, Jamaica
- 19 Move through mud
- 21 Submarine base?
- 22 Warhol subject
- 23 Start of a remark
- 25 Not give — (be indifferent)
- 26 Play
- 27 Moshe of Israel
- 28 Growl
- 30 Appearance
- 32 Pro foe
- 33 Walked
- 35 Part 2 of remark
- 39 Lillie or Straight
- 43 Coasted
- 44 — Pea (Popeye's kid)
- 45 "The Greek Tycoon" subject
- 46 Actress Tyne
- 48 Rock's Fleetwood —
- 50 Layette fasteners
- 54 Unwell
- 55 Fall in a heap
- 58 "The Messiah," for one
- 61 Electrical inventor
- 63 Word form for "large"
- 64 Morticia, to Pugsley
- 65 Coarse flour
- 66 Clean-air org.
- 68 Dutch painter
- 70 Ram's remark
- 71 Compass pt.
- 72 Casino cubes
- 75 Part 3 of remark
- 79 New Mexico resort
- 80 Curie or Arden
- 81 Actress Tyler
- 82 General Bradley
- 83 — Canals
- 85 A bad figure?
- 87 Alias initials
- 88 Corpulent
- 91 Furnishings
- 95 Noisy quarrels
- 97 Like some butter
- 99 Exist
- 100 Innsbruck's locale
- 101 Cable channel
- 103 Little than little
- 104 JVC competitor
- 105 Summer stinger
- 108 Promise
- 111 Part of PG
- 114 Part 4 of remark
- 118 New York county
- 119 Sopranos' network
- 120 Geometry calculation
- 121 Trepidation
- 125 67 Down feature
- 128 — beaver
- 131 Can openers?
- 133 End of remark
- 135 Put on
- 136 Frozen capital
- 137 Flynn of films
- 138 Fabled racer
- 139 Mortise's mate
- 140 Have to have
- 141 '60s talk-show host
- 142 TV's "The Flying —"

DOWN

- 1 Parched
- 2 One of the Simpsons

- 3 Youthful hairdos
- 4 Fast flier
- 5 "Oh, woe!"
- 6 Wedding wear
- 7 Disoriented
- 8 Journalist Tarbell
- 9 — onion
- 10 Actor Delon
- 11 Matures
- 12 "Grumpy — Men" ('93 film)
- 13 Norm
- 14 You can count on them
- 15 "— Tree" ('62 hit)
- 16 Street talk
- 18 Get cracking
- 20 Rosemary and basil
- 24 "Are you — out?"
- 29 "— Abner"
- 31 Hot off the press
- 34 "The Aeneid" character
- 36 Use a stopwatch
- 37 Take a breather
- 38 Poison
- 39 Angler's dangles
- 40 Agatha's colleague
- 41 Unruffle
- 42 Grasso or Raines
- 47 Marina sight
- 49 Small band
- 51 Where the action is
- 52 Perahia's instrument
- 53 Pump parts
- 55 Graduation gear
- 56 Bandleader Perez
- 57 Wise guy
- 59 Laugh loudly
- 60 Pile up
- 62 Poe's "Annabel —"
- 67 Book of maps
- 69 Strike-breakers
- 72 Dutch pottery
- 73 Tower material?
- 74 Composer Frank
- 76 Walk in the woods
- 77 "Stop, sailor!"
- 78 Pick up the check
- 79 Low digit
- 84 Eccentric
- 86 Crab's expression
- 89 Lingerie item
- 90 Empedocles' last stand?
- 92 — coordi-nates
- 93 Namu or Willy
- 94 Genuine
- 96 Be — unto oneself
- 97 Home of the Osmonds
- 98 Thornfield governess
- 102 Distinguished
- 106 — Na Na
- 107 C&W's Dolly
- 109 It's in the bag
- 110 Chrissie of The Pretenders
- 112 Hockey's Lindros
- 113 Last inning
- 114 It's often heaved
- 115 Subside
- 116 Boston airport
- 117 Make one's hair stand on end?
- 122 Trail mix
- 123 Nimble
- 124 '82 Jeff Bridges film
- 126 Neutral tone
- 127 Rock hound?
- 129 Freud topic
- 130 Cartoon canine
- 132 Turf
- 134 Flagon filler



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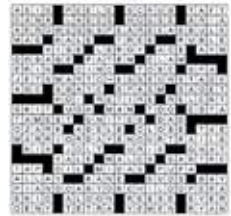
- 1. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president served the shortest term?
- 2. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: Who said, "Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please"?
- 3. SCIENCE: What is the science of classifying things called?
- 4. MATH: How many zeroes are in 1 billion?
- 5. HISTORY: When was Andrew Young appointed as Ambassador to the United Nations?
- 6. LANGUAGE: What does it mean when someone "bliviates"?
- 7. COMPETITIONS: How long is the Tour de France bicycle race?
- 8. HISTORY: Who was the first female justice to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court?
- 9. MOVIES: Who was the oldest performer to receive an Oscar for Best Actor?
- 10. TELEVISION: Which Muppet character lives in the garbage can on "Sesame Street"?

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- 10. Oscar the Grouch for his performance in "On Golden Pond."
- 9. Henry Ford (He was 76 when he won)
- 8. Sandra Day O'Connor
- 7. 23 days covering about 2,200 miles
- 6. Speaks pompously or verbosely

- 1. William Harrison (He served only one month in office.)
- 2. Mark Twain
- 3. Taxonomy
- 4. Nine
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Saturday's Answers



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,
-v-
DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-382

FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an order issued by the Court in this matter on November 13, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 11, 2010, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 7th day of May, 2010:

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,
-v-
DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054

FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 L 180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing / Cadastral Plat No. 05 L 02, the original of which was recorded March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check NO. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 11, 2010, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 7th day of May, 2010:

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,
-v-
JOSEPH ALDAN ARRIOLA, Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0021

THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 31, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 034 L 129, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 034 L 21 recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299; and Lot 034 L 130, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 257 square meter, more or less, as more particularly described in the Subdivision of Lot 034 L 63, on DLS Check No. 34 L 21, recorded in the Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File No. 97-1299.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 11, 2010, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 7th day of May, 2010:

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NATIVIDAD P. DOMINGO, Petitioner,
vs
BENIGNO A. DOMINGO JR. Respondent.

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0078

SUMMOND FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:
BENIGNO A. DOMINGO JR.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 500252, Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 24th day of May, 2010.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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Artest's miracle shot leads Lakers past Suns



LOS ANGELES (AP)—A path through the lane suddenly opened up before Ron Artest. Kobe Bryant's missed 3-pointer dropped right into his hands, and Artest's awkward layup banked neatly through the net as the buzzer sounded on Game 5 of the Western Conference finals.

What a pretty finish to an ugly game for the Lakers' veteran troublemaker, who has struggled to find his role throughout his first season with the defending champions—and what a strange, thrilling way for Artest to carve out his own spot in the Lakers' playoff lore.

Artest banked home the winning shot after grabbing the biggest offensive rebound of his career, nudging the Lakers past the Phoenix Suns 103-101 on Thursday night to take a 3-2 series lead.

Bryant had 30 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists for the Lakers, but the improbable hero of Game 5 is the only new player on their roster. Bryant and Artest wrapped each other in a bear hug after Artest homed in on Bryant's miss and threw up a hideous shot that somehow went in.

"It means a lot for him," Bryant said. "I think for him emotionally, it's a big boost. ... Once I released the ball, I saw Ron sneaking in. I was just hoping that he got it off in time."

Artest's basket completed a 2-for-9 shooting night redeemed by one supremely heady offensive rebound. Moments earlier, Jason Richardson banked in a straightaway 3-pointer with 3.5 seconds left to tie it for the Suns.

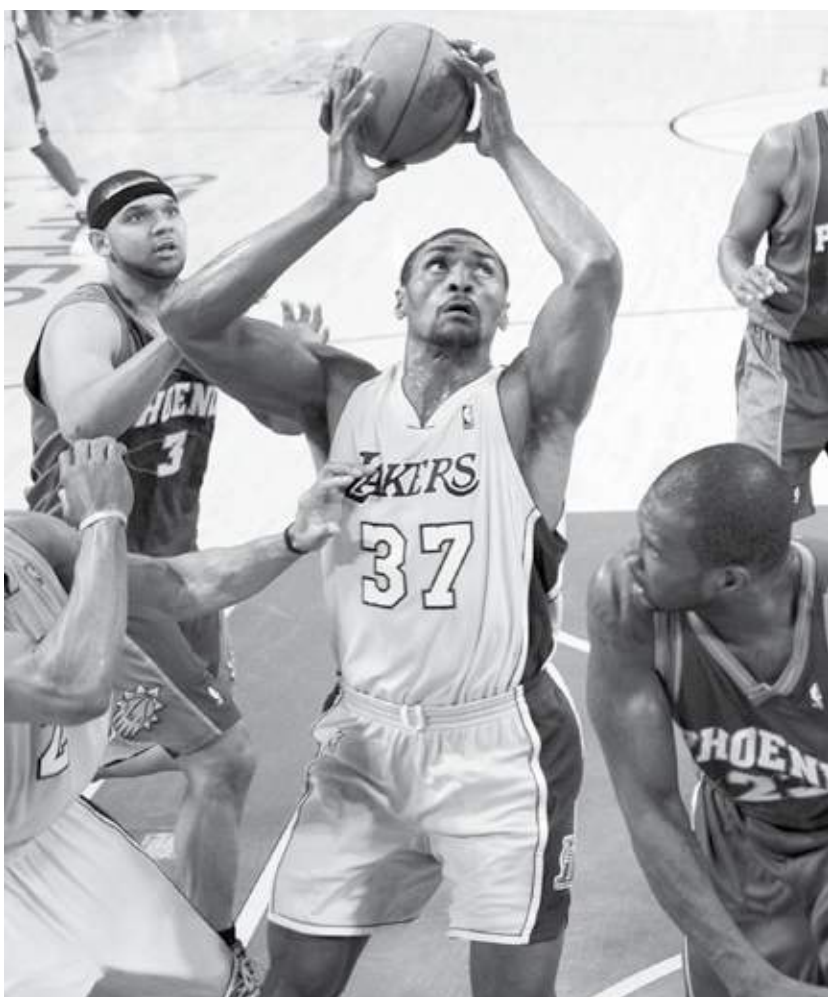
"I wasn't playing my game from the beginning," Artest said. "In the second half, I was finding my way a little bit, made some good passes and good steals and got some rebounds. So I guess that aggressive play can carry over into that last possession."

Game 6 is Saturday night in Phoenix, where the Lakers can clinch the chance to play for their 16th championship.

Phoenix clawed back from an 18-point deficit in the second half with a superb game by Steve Nash, who had 29 points and 11 assists. After Richardson's accidental tying bank shot, the Lakers went to Bryant, whose miss went straight to Artest.

"I thought Kobe got fouled on the shot, so I figured it was going to be short," Artest said. "And it was a little short."

Lakers coach Phil Jackson wasn't



Los Angeles Lakers forward Ron Artest puts up the winning shot as Phoenix Suns forward Jared Dudley, left, and guard Jason Richardson look on during the second half of Game 5 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals, Thursday, May 27, 2010, in Los Angeles.

even sure why he had Artest in the game after the veteran forward missed consecutive open shots earlier in the final minute.

"He has an uncanny knack of doing things, and sometimes it just works out," Jackson said. "He just has a knack for being around crucial plays."

Lamar Odom had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who led 101-96 with 90 seconds to play before Nash hit another jumper and Artest missed twice, the home crowd yelling in frustration with each open brick.

"His whole methods since we were small is, 'I'm going to outwork you,'" said Odom, who played AAU ball with Artest in their New York youth. "I'm going to bang you until you don't want no more. His stubbornness is the reason why he took that 3, because he just missed one. That's part of his game, that's why he's a great player, and that's why he's a great defender. It's just

something you have to live with."

Led by Nash's stirring second-half effort, the Suns hacked away at Los Angeles' lead throughout the fourth quarter. Phoenix trimmed its deficit to 95-94 when Nash converted a three-point play and then fed Amare Stoudemire for a layup that barely beat the shot clock with 2:52 left.

"Everything is OK," Nash said. "We can't knock a great effort. Maybe we deserved this game, maybe we didn't. They held home court. We'll go back and do the same, and we'll come back here for Game 7."

Stoudemire scored 19 points for the Suns, who had three looks at a 3-point shot in the final seconds. Nash and Richardson both missed, but Richardson then missed so badly that he banked it in from a long step behind the line.

"We just didn't quite finish the game," Suns coach Alvin Gentry said. "I have no complaints. They played

Celtics hope to avoid Bruins' fate, reach finals

BOSTON (AP)—It's a good thing for the Boston Celtics that the NBA rescinded Kendrick Perkins' technical foul and nixed his suspension.

He might be the only big man they have left to guard Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard.

Perkins was ejected from Boston's 113-92 loss to Orlando in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals on Wednesday night after picking up two technicals in the first half. The league rescinded one on Thursday, clearing Perkins to play in Game 6 when Boston tries for the third time to eliminate the Magic and advance to the NBA finals.

"We know what we haven't done, and what we need to do," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said Thursday. "I think we'll be ready to do it tomorrow night."

Even with Perkins, the Celtics will still be short-handed trying to slow down Howard, who has averaged 26 points and 13 rebounds in the last two games as the Magic twice avoided elimination.

Backup Glen "Big Baby" Davis was diagnosed with a concussion after blacking out on the court from Howard's inadvertent elbow to his face in Game 5. Rasheed Wallace tweaked his back in the game and couldn't even sit down to watch film on Thursday.

Rivers said they are both game-time decisions. Reserve Marquis Daniels also sustained a concussion, and he has been all but ruled out for Friday night's game.

"Our mentality is: We just have to lace them up and go play," Rivers said. "We have a lot of bumps and bruises right now, but we'll be OK."

The Celtics need a victory Friday night to avoid a trip back to Orlando for a seventh game, where a Magic victory would make them the first team in NBA history to come back from a 3-0 deficit in a best-of-seven playoff series.

"I didn't like being in a 3-0 hole, but it's still doable. I don't think we've had a lack of belief," Orlando coach Stan Van Gundy said. "We can't go back and get those first three. ... I don't know why we didn't get at it, I don't know why we didn't play with the same type of energy in the first three games. I really do not know."

Only four times in North American pro sports history has a team come back from a 3-0 deficit. But the Magic wouldn't even be the first to do it this month in Boston: The Bruins led the NHL's Eastern Conference semis 3-0 before the Philadelphia Flyers came back to advance—celebrating in the very same TD Garden locker room where the Magic dress.

for the home team.

After dominating Game 4 while Phoenix evened the series, the Suns' bench outscored the Lakers just 31-24 in Game 5, while Los Angeles reasserted its size advantage against the Suns' zone defense with a 49-40 rebounding edge. The Lakers surged to a 16-point lead in the first half with a 21-4 run led by Bryant, who hit three consecutive 3-pointers in less than a minute.

Gentry vomited into a trash can while sitting on the bench in the first half after apparently eating something that disagreed with him. Gentry, who reportedly received intravenous fluids at halftime, also didn't care for the officiating, earning a technical foul midway through the Lakers' big run.

Los Angeles jumped ahead 74-56 in the third quarter, but Phoenix made a 16-4 rally including a four-point play by Jared Dudley to trim the lead to six points heading into the fourth.

Murray struggles into 3rd round at Roland Garros



PARIS (AP)—As a Scot, Andy Murray should be more accustomed to dealing with rain than he showed at the French Open on Thursday.

Murray's second-round match took two days to complete and was interrupted by showers again after resuming Thursday. He was pleased to beat the darkness and Juan Ignacio Chela 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-2.

"Rain delays I've not really had many in my career," Murray said. "It was a good experience for me, one I could have dealt with maybe a little bit better."

The match was suspended Wednesday night at 3-all in the second set and, following a 4 1/2-hour delay before

play began Thursday, Murray started slowly, losing the second set in a tie-breaker then going down a break in the third set before asserting himself.

"I just felt a little bit tense at the start," he said. "Then I actually felt fine as soon as I went behind. That's a bit strange, but that's how it was. I started to play a lot better as soon as I got broken in the third set."

Rain made a mess of the schedule but the only significant upset was No. 13 Gael Monfils' 2-6, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4, 9-7 loss to Fabio Fognini. The match had been suspended because of darkness Wednesday at 5-all in the fifth set.

Three seeded women lost: No. 8 Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 21 Vera Zvonareva and No. 32 Kateryna Bondarenko.

Ana Ivanovic hit another low in her slide since winning the French Open two years ago, losing in the second round to No. 28 Alisa Kleybanova 6-3, 6-0.

Eighteen singles matches were postponed, including those involving Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams, delaying their second-round matches until at least Friday—the sixth day of the tournament.

Five singles matches were suspended because of darkness, with four-time champion Justine Henin and Maria Sharapova both up a set in their matches.

No. 6-seeded Andy Roddick endured two delays and difficult conditions to defeat Blaz Kavcic 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2. The damp weather took some zip off Roddick's biggest weapon, and for much of

the match he was dueling from the baseline on his worst surface.

"It was brutal for me out there," he said. "I couldn't get my serve to go anywhere, and the ball was just sitting up. It kind of takes away a lot of shots and it makes it just about hitting the ball and running. ...

"I don't know the last time I lost serve seven times and won. So it's bad, but there's got to be something good in there somewhere too."

The dampness didn't hamper the serves of 2.02-meter (6-foot-9) American John Isner, who reached the third round at Roland Garros for the first time by beating Marco Chiudinelli 6-7 (3), 7-6 (3), 7-6 (7), 6-4. Isner, seeded 17th, whacked 38 aces playing on Court 6.

"Everyone was talking about how

slow the courts were playing," Isner said. "I felt like my court stayed fairly fast."

No. 25 Marcos Baghdatis fought past Marcel Granollers 4-6, 6-1, 7-5, 6-2 and reached the third round for only the second time in his career. He was scheduled to face Murray on Friday.

"I'm playing very smart on court and just finding solutions to win," Baghdatis said. "I'm perfect physically. I have no injuries. I feel fit. I feel that I can last, so that makes things a bit easier."

On the women's side, No. 4 Jelena Jankovic, No. 5 Elena Dementieva and No. 11 Li Na won, while 39-year-old Kimiko Date Krumm lost to Australia's Jarmila Groth 6-0, 6-3.

Date Krumm was hampered by a calf injury suffered in the first round, when she beat former No. 1 Dinara Safina to become the oldest woman since 1985 to reach the second round.

Kubel powers Twins over Yankees



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Jason Kubel hit two home runs and drove in five runs to power the Minnesota Twins to an 8-2 win over the New York Yankees in Thursday's American League action.

Kubel hit a solo homer in the sixth, a three-run shot in the seventh and had an RBI double for the Twins, who had gone eight games and 349 plate appearances without a home run before he broke out.

For New York, Robinson Cano had two hits and two RBIs and Mark Teixeira had two hits.

Rays 5, White Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Evan Longoria and Carl Crawford homered for Tampa Bay in the win over Chicago.

Crawford hit a solo homer in the first and drove in a run off Gavin Floyd (2-5) with a fifth-inning sacrifice fly. Longoria's solo shot off the Chicago starter put Tampa Bay ahead 3-0 in the sixth.

The Rays snapped a three-game losing streak, improving baseball's best record to 33-15.

Royals 4, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Brian Bannister pitched six strong innings to help Kansas City end Boston's five-game winning streak.

Bannister (4-3) gave up three runs while winning his third straight. Joakim Soria pitched a perfect ninth for his 12th save.

David DeJesus drove in two runs for the Royals.

Athletics 7, Orioles 5

In Baltimore, Kevin Kouzmanoff doubled in three runs to cap a five-run eighth inning that lifted Oakland over Baltimore.

Gabe Gross homered for the Athletics, who won the final two games of the three-game series to claim only their second road series win of the season.

In the eighth, Baltimore reliever



Minnesota Twins' Jason Kubel swings on a three-run home run in the seventh inning off New York Yankees pitcher Chad Gaudin during their baseball game Thursday, May 27, 2010, in Minneapolis.

Mark Hendrickson (1-3) gave up an RBI single to Ryan Sweeney, an infield hit and a bad-hop single. Cla Meredith relieved and Kouzmanoff doubled to the gap in left-center.

Cardinals 8, Padres 3

In San Diego, Albert Pujols hit his first homer and drove in his first runs for 12 games, helping the St. Louis Cardinals beat the San Diego Padres.

Star slugger Pujols was homerless with no RBIs for two weeks before he lined a shot off Wade LeBlanc (2-3) in the fifth inning that hit off the third-story balcony.

St. Louis' Brendan Ryan tied a career high with four hits.

Mets 3, Phillies 0

In New York, the hosts pulled off an extraordinary pitching feat by shutting out hard-hitting Philadelphia for the third straight game.

Mike Pelfrey (7-1) and a pair of relievers held the Phillies to four singles while winning their fifth consecutive game. It was the first time the Mets had recorded three successive shutouts since 1988.

Cubs 1, Dodgers 0

In Chicago, Ted Lilly pitched seven scoreless innings to direct Chicago over Los Angeles.

Lilly had his best start this season but still is searching for his first win in five

weeks, with the win being credited to his replacement Sean Marshall (1-0).

Tyler Colvin drove in the lone run with a double in the eighth, ending the night for Dodgers starter John Ely (3-2), who was the unlucky loser.

Braves 8, Marlins 3

In Miami, Martin Prado had three hits and drove in two runs for Atlanta, defeating Florida.

Chipper Jones and Yunel Escobar each reached base three times and drove in a run in a game delayed by rain.

Atlanta's Peter Moylan (2-0) took the win with an inning in relief of Tim Hudson, who did not return after the delay.

Giants 5, Nationals 4

In San Francisco, Freddy Sanchez hit a tiebreaking, two-run single in the seventh inning to lift San Francisco over Washington.

Aubrey Huff added a solo home run for the Giants.

Santiago Casilla (1-0) pitched 2-3 of an inning to get the win in relief of starter Barry Zito.

Reds 8, Pirates 2

In Cincinnati, Scott Rolen's three-run homer started an early splurge as Cincinnati beat Pittsburgh and notched its best record since 2006.

The NL Central moved a season-high eight over .500 at 28-20. They haven't been that well off since '06, also was the last time they were in first place so deep into a season.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 2

In Denver, Seth Smith, Carlos Gonzalez and Ryan Spilborghs hit consecutive home runs in the seventh inning as Colorado completed a three-game sweep of Arizona.

The game was close until the Rockies' bats exploded against Arizona starter Dan Haren (5-4) in the seventh. Ahead 4-2, Clint Barmes singled with one out and Smith, battling a cold, went long. Gonzalez followed and Spilborghs added a third on the next pitch to make it 8-2.

Brewers 4, Astros 3, 10 innings

In Milwaukee, Matt Liddstrom walked Rickie Weeks with the bases loaded in the 10th inning to force in Milwaukee's winning run against Houston.

Liddstrom (1-1) had converted 22 straight save opportunities dating to last season, including his first ten in 2010.

Brewers rookie John Axford (1-0), the fifth reliever used, pitched a scoreless 10th for his first victory.

Bohn, Overton share Colonial lead, Lefty struggles



F O R T W O R T H , Texas (AP)—Jason Bohn, Jeff Overton

and Blake Adams shot 7-under 63s on Thursday to share the first-round lead at the Colonial, where 2008 champion Phil Mickelson's return turned into a struggle after an impressive start.

Mickelson birdied the first two holes, but that was the lowest he got on a hot day with ideal scoring conditions. Lefty finished with a 1-over 71 and is tied for 89th place, while 75 players were under par.

It will take quite a comeback for Mickelson to win his third Colonial, a victory that would push him to No. 1 in the world ranking ahead of Tiger Woods for the first time in his career. He has work to do just to make the cut and participate in the tournament's second "Pink Out" during the third round Saturday.

Mickelson wasn't at a pink-swathed "Hogan's Alley" to defend his title last May after finding out that his wife had breast cancer. That is when the Colonial had its first "Pink Out" to honor Amy Mickelson and raise awareness of the disease.

Overton shot his career-best round after being even through seven holes, while Bohn, who won last month in New Orleans, had his season-best round despite congestion so bad that he couldn't hear out of his left ear. Adams was in the last group of the day.

After Mickelson blasted from a greenside bunker to 10 feet for a birdie at the opening par-5, 565-yard hole, he put his drive at the dogleg-right 389-yard 2nd hole only 50 yards from the pin and pitched to 8 feet for another birdie.

Walking off the No. 3 tee box after another impressive drive, Mickelson was flashing the thumbs-up sign and acknowledging the verbal kudos coming from spectators in the gallery.

By the time he knocked in a bogey putt at the 18th hole, Mickelson was shaking his head trying to figure out what happened. The Masters champion hit only five of 14 fairways and missed six greens.

"There's no excuse. There's no wind, the golf course is in perfect shape, and there were a lot of scores out there," Mickelson said. "I just wasn't one of them."

Brian Davis was alone in fourth after shooting 64 despite a swollen face from

an abscess inside his mouth. Davis left after his round to go see a doctor.

There was a group of nine players at 65, one shot better than John Daly, who had his first bogey-free round in two years. Defending champion Steve Stricker shot 68.

Mickelson managed to save par at the 406-yard 6th hole despite sending his drive into the right rough and then hitting his approach only 37 yards—43 yards away from the pin and still in the rough.

The next tee shot ricocheted backward off a tree, seemingly a break since he had a clear line to the No. 7 green despite being in the right rough. But Mickelson pushed his approach well left of the green into a hazard, forcing him to take a penalty on his way to double bogey. His only other birdie came on a 16-foot putt at the par-3 8th.

"I played well the first four holes, then the last 14, I hit the ball terrible, so I'll have some work to do," Mickelson said. "Already was in there texting Butch (Harmon, his coach) and so I've got some direction. In the morning, I'll probably get out here early."

Mickelson bogeyed two of the last three holes, saving par at No. 17 despite his approach shot hitting a television tower.

Favre surgery wasn't much of a surprise to Vikings

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—For the second straight spring, Brett Favre's decision to have surgery down south has decreased any doubts in Minnesota about his desire to play.

The body part has changed, from right shoulder to left ankle, but the name and the game remain the same.

This time, the vibe around the Vikings is leaving even less intrigue than last year about whether Favre will be their quarterback this fall.

Favre posted confirmation of the arthroscopic procedure on his personal website last Friday. He hasn't officially told the team he'll return, but the surgery sure was a strong suggestion.

"I think that's some promising news," tight end Visanthe Shiancoe said after Thursday's practice. "Why'd he get ankle surgery? That's the first thing that came through my mind. Seems like he got it for the season, because that's what he needed to come back to the Vikings. But whatever's best for him and his family and for his old body—old, old, old body, I stress that. He has to make a decision that's good for him."



Favre's future has been up in the air since the Vikings lost the NFC championship game to New Orleans in January. He's coming off what he has called the best season of his 19-year career, that forced interception in the fourth quarter against the Saints the only real blemish.

Favre spoke often about how much fun he had playing for his one-time rivals, and that the Vikings coming so close to the Super Bowl ought to increase his appetite for more success even if the new grandpa will turn 41 in October.

"You always want to end on top," Shiancoe said. "Not saying that he personally didn't end on top, but us as a team, man, we have unfinished business. Hopefully he feels the same way."

Offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell said he wasn't surprised that Favre had surgery, but he insisted his most recent contact with Favre was not related to football. Bevell teased his longtime friend Favre about his satellite participation in a motivational business seminar held in Minneapolis on Wednesday.



ERRATUM

Saipan Tribune erroneously identified Michael Muna in a photo in the article "Ol'Aces' Muna is Majors MVP" that appeared last May 25. Our apologies. Muna, whose photo appears left, was the most decorated player of the 2010 Saipan Little League Majors Division season. He won the regular season MVP, homerun, and best ERA trophies during the awards ceremony Saturday.

WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	33	15	.688	—
New York	28	19	.596	4 1/2
Boston	27	22	.551	6 1/2
Toronto	27	22	.551	6 1/2
Baltimore	15	33	.313	18

Central Division

Minnesota	27	20	.574	—
Detroit	25	21	.543	1 1/2
Chicago	20	27	.426	7
Kansas City	20	28	.417	7 1/2
Cleveland	17	28	.378	9

West Division

Texas	26	21	.553	—
Oakland	25	23	.521	1 1/2
Los Angeles	23	26	.469	4
Seattle	18	28	.391	7 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	26	20	.565	—
Atlanta	25	22	.532	1 1/2
New York	25	23	.521	2
Florida	24	24	.500	3
Washington	24	24	.500	3

Central Division

Cincinnati	28	20	.583	—
St. Louis	27	21	.563	1
Chicago	23	25	.479	5
Pittsburgh	20	28	.417	8
Milwaukee	19	28	.404	8 1/2
Houston	16	31	.340	11 1/2

West Division

San Diego	28	19	.596	—
Los Angeles	26	21	.553	2
Colorado	25	22	.532	3
San Francisco	24	22	.522	3 1/2
Arizona	20	28	.417	8 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Milwaukee 4, Houston 3, 10 innings
Chicago Cubs 1, L.A. Dodgers 0
Colorado 8, Arizona 2
San Francisco 5, Washington 4
St. Louis 8, San Diego 3
Atlanta 8, Florida 3
N.Y. Mets 3, Philadelphia 0
Cincinnati 8, Pittsburgh 2
Oakland 7, Baltimore 5
Tampa Bay 5, Chicago White Sox 1
Kansas City 4, Boston 3
Minnesota 8, N.Y. Yankees 2

COLONIAL INVITATIONAL SCORES

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Scores Thursday from the Colonial Invitational, a \$6.2 million event at the 7,204-yard, par-70 Colonial Country Club:

FIRST ROUND

Jeff Overton	34-29—63
Jason Bohn	30-33—63
Blake Adams	33-30—63
Brian Davis	32-32—64
Bill Haas	32-33—65
Nathan Green	33-32—65
Bryce Molder	32-33—65
John Mallinger	32-33—65
Carl Petteersson	32-33—65
Zach Johnson	32-33—65
Spencer Levin	34-31—65
Kris Blanks	33-32—65
Aron Price	32-33—65
Ricky Barnes	33-33—66
John Daly	33-33—66
John Merrick	33-33—66
Paul Casey	33-33—66
Jason Day	34-32—66
Woody Austin	35-32—67
Justin Rose	31-36—67
Tim Clark	34-33—67
K.J. Choi	34-33—67
Derek Lamely	34-33—67
Vijay Singh	34-33—67

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OL'ACES

From Page 28

and Kaipat singled in Mike Iguel. Cepeda singled in Kaipat after Aughenbaugh scored off an error before the D-9ers could escape the second.

In the bottom half, the D9ers answered with four runs to make the score a 9-7, two-run, ballgame.

Wally Emul led off with a solo homerun and Dave Jones reached and scored off an error. Two outs later, Jared Camacho reached off an error and was singled in by Eric Tenorio. Dave Camacho came next and singled in Tenorio before the Ol'Aces closed the last out.

PATRIOTS

From Page 28

But the Pats forced the Sox to go 1-2-3 to start the third before adding a run in the bottom half from a sacrifice fly by Henry Rabauliman.

In the top of the fourth, Joseph Borja hit a one-out single for the Sox and scored off an error to give his Sox their only run of the game.

After a rough first inning, Cabrera pitched very well to contain the Patriots during the fourth and fifth innings, but he exceeded his pitch limit at the end of the fifth and in the bottom of the sixth, with the score at 4-1 Patriots, the Pats blew two other Sox pitchers off the mound; producing the seven runs needed for the early ending.

Both starting pitchers performed well as this game was very competitive until the late barrage by the pennant champs.

Winning pitcher Jeremy Rabauliman went five innings with zero earned runs, eight strikeouts, three hits, four walks, and one hit by pitch.

Northerns 7, Survivors 6

Trailing by one run in the bottom of the seventh, the home team Northerns (3-10) tied the game, forcing extra innings, where they pulled off the upset

Both teams went 1-2-3 in the third and then the Ol'Aces added a run in the top of the fourth from Mike Iguel who reached with a one-out single, went to third off an error, and was granted a free pass to the plate after a balk by the D9ers pitcher.

The D9ers were stuffed 1-2-3 again in the bottom of the fourth and after scoring three more runs, the Ol'Aces increased their lead to 13-7 in the top of the fifth.

Manas led off and reached off an error and two outs later, Brel singled him in. A walk later, Aughenbaugh hit a two-RBI single that scored Ryan Lisua and Brel; Lisua reached earlier off a fielder's choice prior to Brel's RBI single.

over the Survivors (6-7) in the bottom of the ninth.

In the top of the first, the Survivors' Jeffery Lizama and Vicente Cabrera Jr. each scored off errors after reaching with two out singles.

Then the Northerns tied it up from a two-RBI single by Roy Tudela that scored Ian Lizama and Haini Blas who led off with a couple of walks.

The Northerns stuffed the Survivors in the second and then added a run from Frankie Norita who led off with a triple and scored off an error.

After a quiet third, the Survivors forged ahead with a three runs in the top of the fourth. All three runs came in off a couple errors and a passed ball.

Then the Northerns trimmed the lead to one when Frankie Norita scored off an error after reaching off a fielder's choice.

Both teams added a run in the fifth inning to make the score 6-5, Survivors.

Notably, after a lead off walk in the bottom of the fifth, the Northerns called Haini Blas to the mound in relief for Frankie Norita. At this time Blas did not know that he would go on to pitch five shutout innings in a nine-inning marathon game. Blas' pitching style also requires a supportive defense, so kudos to them for backing him up.

Both teams went 1-2-3 in the sixth and then Blas sat down

ning Shakir Realty (5-1).

Tasi Tours 101, 9ers 70

Tasi Tours split its two games over the weekend after whipping 9ers on Sunday, 101-70.

Ray Diaz sizzled for 50 points for Tasi Tours, while Bob Geli added 24.

Tasi Tours got off to a jack-rabbit start, scoring 38 points against 9ers' 18 to take the early lead en route to a 31-point win.

Ebisuya 113, Moonlight 79

Ebisuya won back-to-back games over the weekend after outgunning Moonlight, 113-79.

Ebisuya now has a 6-1 record to keep pace with the unbeaten IT&E in Pool A.

Five players scored in double figures for Ebisuya, which handed Moonlight its fifth loss in six games. Jun Tabora tallied 17 points, William Opone added 14, Jun Abedes contributed 13, and Alex Ocampo and Melvin

The D9ers then got two runs back in the bottom half from Dave Camacho, who hit a one-out single and scored off an error, and an RBI triple by Emul that scored Clyde Sablan who reached off an error.

But every time the D9ers stuck their nose back into the game, the Ol'Aces would punch them right in the face. With the score at 13-9, Ol'Aces after five, the Ol'Aces put up five more runs in the top of the sixth.

Manas reached off a fielder's choice and scored off a couple of passed balls. Later with two outs, Juan Iguel drew a walk and Lisua reached with a single. Then Brel singled in Juan Iguel and Mike Iguel brought in Lisua with an RBI

three out of four in the top of the seventh before Sid Nepail got hit by a pitch to start the bottom half and scored the tying run off an error; giving his Northerns second life.

After a scoreless eighth, Blas started the ninth with big 1-2-3 inning and in the bottom half, three walks and a base hit sealed the Northerns' comeback victory.

Notables include winning pitcher Haini Blas who allowed one earned run in five innings with one strikeout, two hits, and a walk. Roy Tudela batted 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

Athletics 5, Lions 4

The Athletics (3-10) came out on top of a close one against the Lions who unfortunately have come up short in all 13 of their games this regular season.

Justin Santos led off the first for the visiting Lions with a single and scored of a couple of errors and a passed ball.

Later, in the bottom of the second, the A's took a one-run lead. Kindu Villagomez led off with a walk and scored off three infield errors. Then A.J. Cabrera knocked in David Muna who reached off a fielder's choice.

The Lions failed to answer in their next two tries, but he A's added another run in the bottom of the fourth from Jared Lizama, who hit a one single, stole second, and scored off a couple errors.

Then, in the top of the fifth,

Villarin chipped in 12 and 10, respectively.

SATURDAY

Easy Does It 101 – Pangelinan 41, Masga 19, Sison 10, Demapan 10, Reyes 7, Deleon Guerrero 5, Abuan 3.

Tasi Tours 86 –R. Diaz 38, Geli 14, Cabrera 13, Cruz 8, Alejandro 7, Sablan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-17, 43-42, 71-69, 101-86.

SUNDAY

First Game

Easy Does It 110 – Pangelinan 33, Sison 18, Sablan 14, Plinske 14, Abuan 12, Reyes 7, Tudela 6, Demapan 2.

Shakir's Realty 57 –S. Ebuen 23, Dayrit 10, Lansang 9, Guiley 4, Sevilla 3, Echavez 2, Gonzales 2, O. Ebuen 1.

Scoring by quarters: 30-12, 55-25, 66-48, 110-57.

Second Game

IT&E 88 – Mendoza 21, Gabaldon 19, Fernandez 18, Ber-

double. Brel and Mike Iguel later scored off an error and a passed ball.

To their credit, the D9ers did not back down all the way to the end. They managed four runs in the bottom half, and forced the Ol'Aces to go 1-2-3 in the top of the seventh, but they ran out of gas in the end and only managed two of the five runs needed to extend the game.

Notably, Jimmy Brel batted 4-for-5 with four RBIs and three runs; Mike Iguel batted 2-for-4 with one RBI, three runs, and a base on balls; Juan Iguel batted 2-for-2 with one RBI, two runs, and a base on balls; Eli Aughenbaugh batted 1-for-3 with two RBIs, one run, two base on balls, and a stolen base.

the Lions briefly took a 4-3 lead, but the A's answered back with a run in the bottom half to knot up the score again.

The Lions went 1-2-3 to start the sixth and this time, Jared Lizama led off the bottom half for the A's with a single, stole second and third, and came in for the go ahead run off an error.

The A's stuffed the Lions in the seventh, and aside from a few errors early in the contest played pretty solid defense for the remainder of the match.

Ol'Aces 8, Fielders 2

The Ol'Aces, comfortably in second place with a 10-3 record, made light work of the Fielders (8-4) thanks to a big five-run inning in the top of the seventh.

A bean ball, a walk, and an error enabled T.J. Sablan to give his visiting Ol'Aces a one-run lead in the top of the second.

The Fielders struggled at the plate all day, failing to produce any runs until the top of the seventh inning. They only managed five base runners, who were all left stranded in the first six innings.

The Ol'Aces held a one-run lead until they added a couple of runs in the top of the sixth and all but slammed the door to start the seventh with five more big runs.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Fielders brought in two runs before the Ol'Aces settled down to secure the win.

line 18, Palacios 9, Tejada 2.

QQ Rent A Car 61 – Illahi 12, Villegas 12, Alfonso 9, Bugay 8, Liberato 6, Lopez 4.

Scoring by quarters: 18-9, 45-24, 69-45, 88-61.

Third Game

Tasi Tours 101 – R. Diaz 50, Geli 24, Ancheta 8, Sablan 7, Cruz 4, Alejandro 4, Generoso 2, Kani 2.

9ers 70 –Poquiz 18, Buniag 17, Quemado 12, Miguel 12, Manglona 6.

Scoring by quarters: 32-18, 56-39, 76-59, 101-70.

Fourth Game

Ebisuya 113 – Tabora 17, Opone 14, Abedes 13, Ocampo 12, Villarin 10, Moises 8, Casabuena 6, Jacob 4, Tobias 3, Salas 2.

Moonlight 79 – Masga 25, Caro 18, Peleno 10, Cultura 8, Gomez 8, Maliwanag 6, Anasan 4.

Scoring by quarters: 23-18, 54-37, 81-58, 113-79.



Artest's miracle shot leads Lakers past Suns

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Saipan Tribune Sports



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2010

17 Tsunami Saipan swimmers off to Guam

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Rezne Wong is back on Saipan and is leading the Tsunami Saipan team that will compete in the 2010 Guam Swimming Championships today at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.

Wong, who is on summer break from the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and 16 other Tsunami Saipan swimmers left Saipan yesterday afternoon to participate in the age group competition, which is part of Guam Swimming Federation's grand prix series.

The Marianas High School graduate is entered in six events; 100m, 50m, and 200m breaststroke, 200m and 400m individual medley, and 50m freestyle swim in the 15-and-above age group.

Joining Wong on the team are Shin and Kensuke Kimura, Kai Staal, Thomas Lee, Kaisei, Ryosei, and Kosei Toda, Steven Choi, Takumi Sugie, Kaito, Ryuto and Hiroto Yanai, Lukas and Monica Kang, Angel Tan, and Angel de Jesus.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said swimmers representing Tsunami Saipan to the one-day Guam meet are selected after they met the BB U.S. time standard.

"This will be Tsunami Saipan swim-



Tsunami SAIPAN

mers final swim meet in Guam for this season, so I am hoping they will set records, either personal best or age group marks. I am also hoping they will make CNMI records and haul several medals in Guam," Kimura said.

Staal and Kensuke Kimura, Kaito and Kosei Toda, Hiroto and Ryuto Yanai, Lukas Kang, Tan, and De Jesus will each compete in eight events. Shin Kimura and Steven Choi will have four events each, Monica Kang is entered in three races, while Lee has one individual event and two relay races.

Tsunami Saipan is entered in the boys' 9 to 10, 13 to 14, and open division medley and 200m freestyle relay races.

Top performers in each age group will receive ribbons at the awards ceremony. The meet will have two session with the first one starting at 9am and the second two and a half hours after the first session ends.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers will be competing against various swim clubs in Guam.

The 17 Tsunami Saipan swimmers, seen here posing for a group photo during a practice last Thursday, left for Guam yesterday to compete in today's meet at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ol'Aces take third place in Big League



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Ol'Aces players Jimmy Brel, right, Mike Iguel, center, and Eli Aughenbaugh pose after leading their team to a second runner-up finish against D9ers Thursday night in the Big League Division of the 2010 Saipan Little League.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces got ahead early and held on to defeat the D9ers and claim third place after Thursday night's 2010 Saipan Little league Big Division consolation game at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The visiting Ol'Aces broke the ice in the top of the first with a one-out single by Jimmy Brel that brought in Juan Iguel, but shaky defense by the Ol'Aces in the bottom half allowed the D9ers to take a two-run lead after one.

Lead off batter Joaquin Castro reached and scored off errors. Eric Tenorio then doubled home Jared Camacho who drew a walk and stole second and Dave Camacho later scored off errors.

However, in the top of the second, the Ol'Aces came through with a big eight-run inning that set the tone for the rest of the game.

Vince Cepeda singled in Marvin Kai-pat, who led off with a double. Cepeda stole second and Mike Manas reached off an error. Then Brandon Borja drew a walk to load the bases. Juan Iguel brought Cepeda in with a sacrifice fly, and an out later, Brel busted an RBI double that scored Manas before Mike Iguel reached off an infield error that allowed both Borja and Brel to come to the plate.

Eli Aughenbaugh then drew a walk

See OL'ACES on Page 27



Patriots complete perfect season

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Patriots finished the regular season of the Saipan Little League Junior Division with a perfect 13-0 win-loss record after defeating the Red Sox, 11-1, via mercy rule in six innings last Sunday at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The visiting Red Sox, which dropped to 8-5, went 1-2-3 in the first

and the Pats broke out with a three-run lead in the bottom half from a sacrifice fly by Jeremy Rabauliman, a balk by Red Sox pitcher Steven Cabrera that scored Henry Rabauliman, and an RBI single by Raymond Saralu.

The Sox then left runners stranded at second and third in the second, but Cabrera did settle on the mound to get his Sox a 1-2-3 inning in the bottom half.

See PATRIOTS on Page 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Easy Does It pose for a group photo before a game in the Masters caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E, Easy Does It lead in Masters caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

IT&E remained perfect in the 2010 MGD/MBFNMI 35A Masters Basketball League, following an 88-61 demolition of QQ Rent A Car last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E improved to a 6-0 record to keep the lead in Pool A.

The league-leading team drew double figures from four players to



cruise to an easy win. Edsel Mendoza fired 22 points, Yosh Gabaldon added 19, and Ernie Fernandez and Bruce Berline chipped in 18 apiece.

IT&E took an 18-9 lead in the first period and completely broke the

See IT&E on Page 27